# Reikan Shouhou Kabushikigaisha

## by Akino Matsuri

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This is an older series by the mangaka, but if you liked it, you can buy it in bunko version or you can find the original version in used bookstores.

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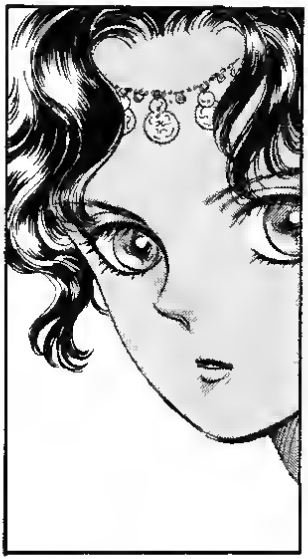

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# REIKAN SHOUHOU KENKYUU-GAISHA 4

The Psychic Business Corporation

Spirit World Employee

Akino Motsuri

秋乃茉莉

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# Reikan Shohou
# Kabushiki-Gaisha ④

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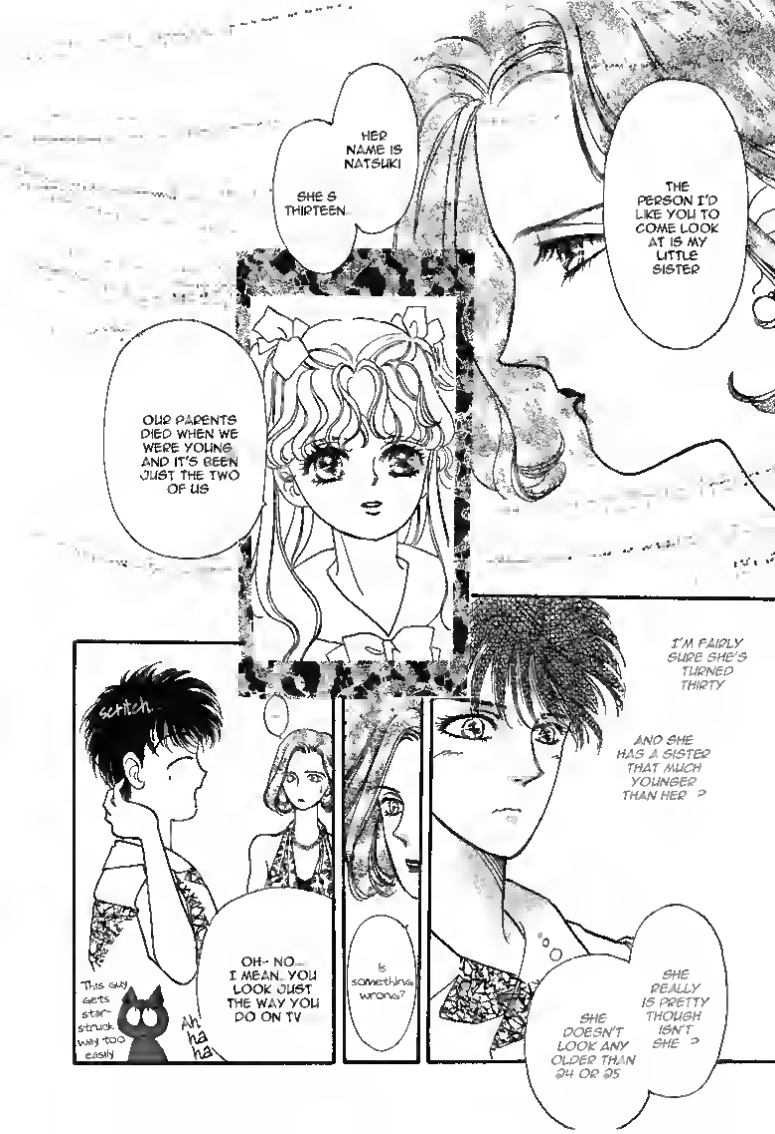
WHY DON'T WE GO TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK INSTEAD?
OR WE COULD
AH...
Ding dong Dingo
NO! NO WAY!
You work with the spirit world and you still believe in fortune telling!?
THE MASTER'S FORTUNES ARE ACCURATE!
WE ARE GOING TO THE BEACH!
THERE IS NO ONE ON EARTH WHO WOULD GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO DROWN!
K.TOKIWA
AH! SEE THERE? IT LOOKS AS THOUGH WE HAVE A CLIENT.

ARIMURA SHOUKO !!
YOU'RE TOKIWA-SAN THE EXORCIST?
SHE WAS INCREDIBLY POPULAR EVEN IN THE BEGINNING WHEN SHE FIRST MADE HER DEBUT AS AN IDOL SINGER
AND NOW SHE'S MADE A BRILLIANT TRANSITION INTO A CAREER AS A TRULY TALENTED ACTRESS
-Huh!
We have no interest in middle-aged women
SHHHH!!
WELL, I- I MEAN EVERYBODY KNOWS... "ARIMURA SHOUKO" IS TODAY'S TRENDIEST ACTRESS... THE VERY BIGGEST STAR
WHAT'RE YOU NERVOUS ABOUT?

* "Idol singers" are young pop singers (16 and up usually female) they are sometimes said to be hired just as much for their singing talents


THE PERSON I'D LIKE YOU TO COME LOOK AT IS MY LITTLE SISTER
HER NAME IS NATSUKI
SHE'S THIRTEEN
OUR PARENTS DIED WHEN WE WERE YOUNG AND IT'S BEEN JUST THE TWO OF US
I'M FAIRLY SURE SHE'S TURNED THIRTY
AND SHE HAS A SISTER THAT MUCH YOUNGER THAN HER ?
SHE REALLY IS PRETTY THOUGH ISN'T SHE ?
SHE DOESN'T LOOK ANY OLDER THAN 24 OR 25
Is something wrong?
OH- NO— I MEAN... YOU LOOK JUST THE WAY YOU DO ON TV
stitch
This guy gets star-struck way too easily
Ah ha ha

ONE DAY, SHE SUDDENLY COLLAPSED IN HER ROOM...
SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN A QUIET CHILD
SHE LIKED BEING HOME ALONE READING OR PLAYING WITH DOLLS BUT...
EVER SINCE, ALTHOUGH THERE'S NOTHING PHYSICALLY WRONG WITH HER
NO MATTER WHO TRIES TO TALK TO HER, SHE SEEMS PRE-OCCUPIED
SHE SPENDS HER DAYS JUST SITTING, STARING INTO SPACE. IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH SHE'S LOST HER SOUL.
EVEN IF HER EYES ARE OPEN, YOU CAN'T TELL WHAT SHE'S LOOKING AT

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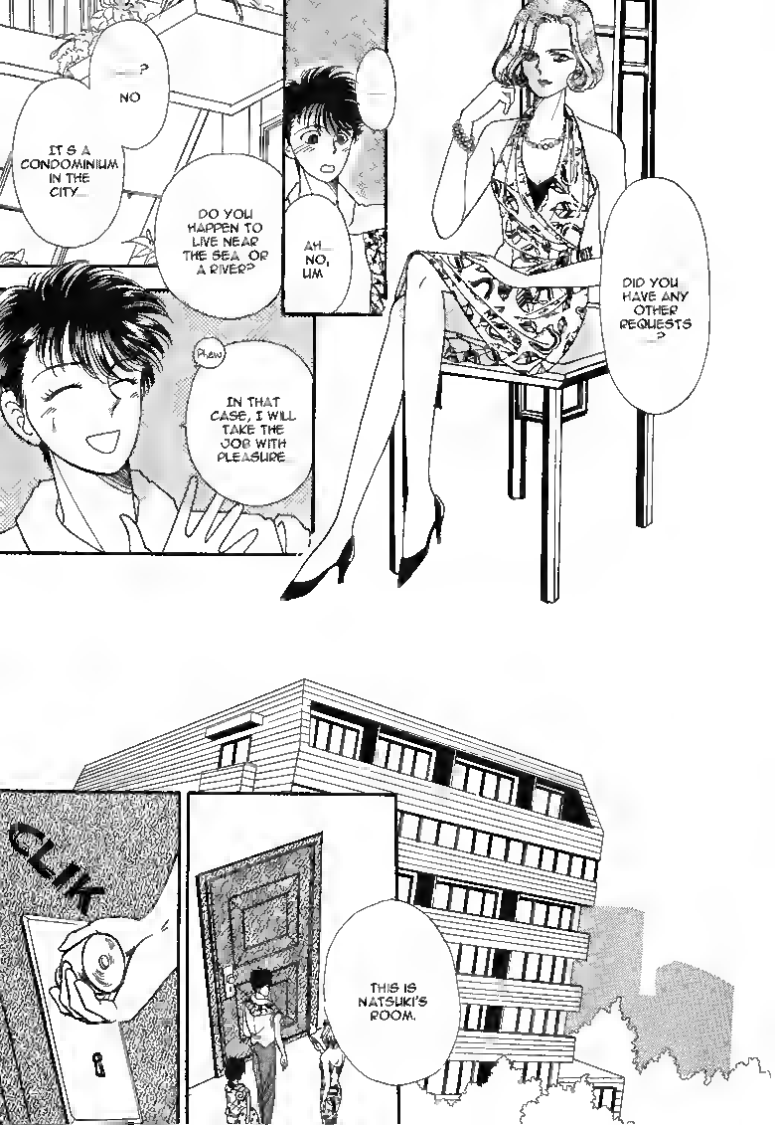
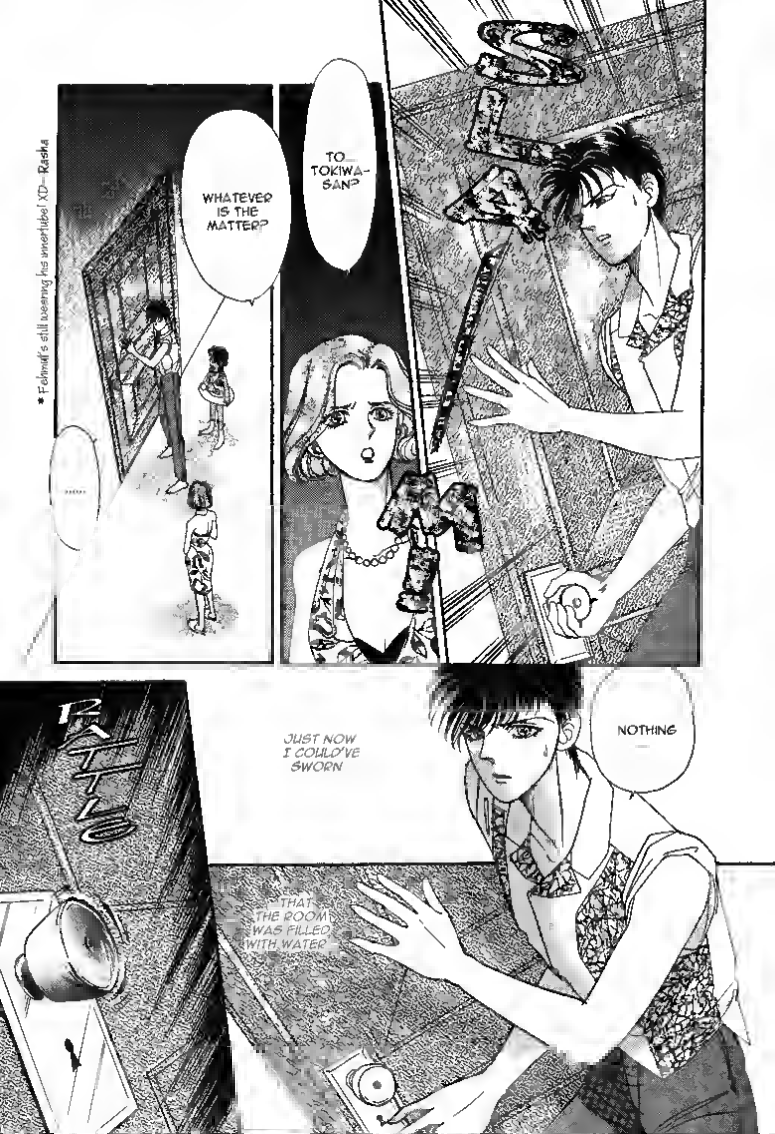
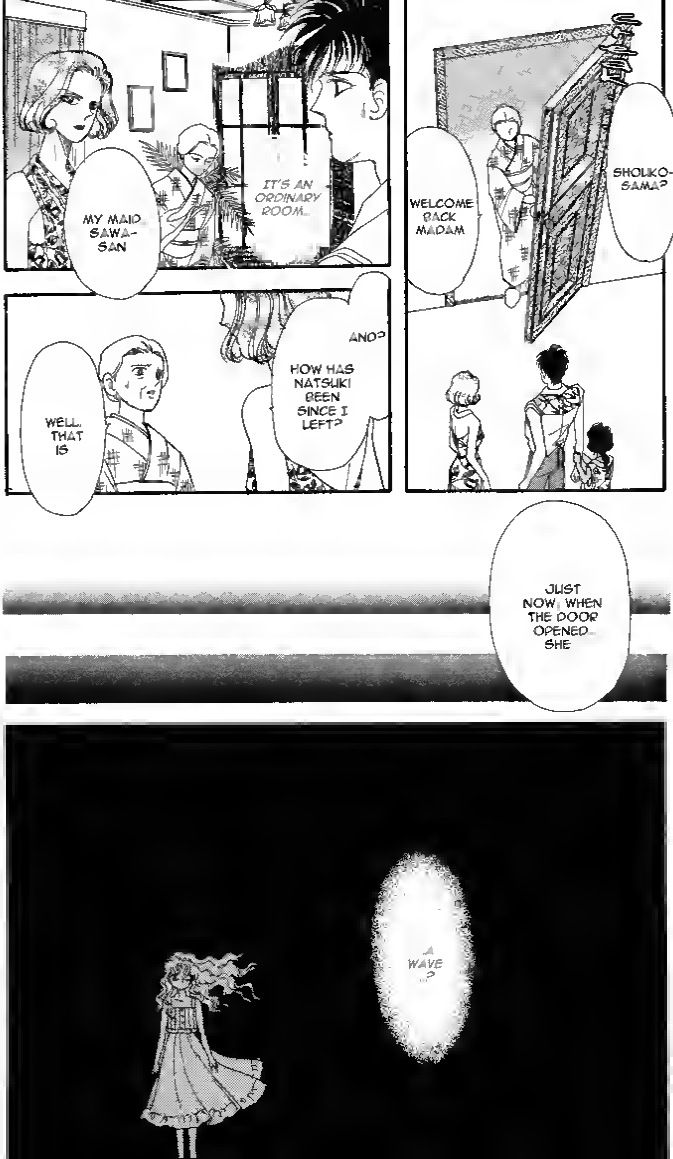
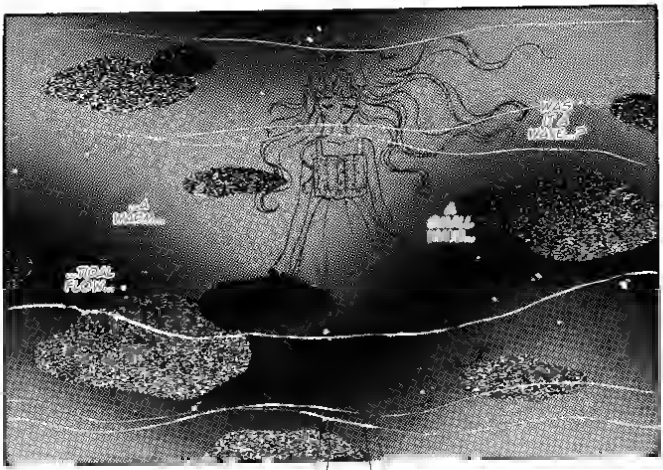
I'VE ALREADY TRIED EVERYTHING I COULD THINK OF
IN THAT CASE, IT MIGHT BE BETTER TO HAVE A PSYCHIATRIC SPECIALIST EXAMINE HER, INSTEAD OF--
"A place like THIS!" How RUDE!
Well yes I suppose that makes sense.
Shh
Shh
IT'S BECAUSE, EVEN THEN, NO ONE COULD FIND THE CAUSE THAT I'VE WOUND UP COMING TO A PLACE LIKE THIS.
Tsuyu?
ALSO, IF IT WERE TO GET OUT THAT ARIMURA SHOUKO'S SISTER WAS IN SUCH A STATE
THERE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE A SCANDAL
THIS IS YOUR ADVANCE
IF THAT ISN'T ENOUGH I'LL PAY ANYTHING YOU ASK


DID YOU HAVE ANY OTHER REQUESTS—?
AH... NO, UM
DO YOU HAPPEN TO LIVE NEAR THE SEA OR A RIVER?
IT'S A CONDOMINIUM IN THE CITY...
—? NO
PLEW
IN THAT CASE, I WILL TAKE THE JOB WITH PLEASURE...
CLIK
THIS IS NATSUKI'S ROOM.

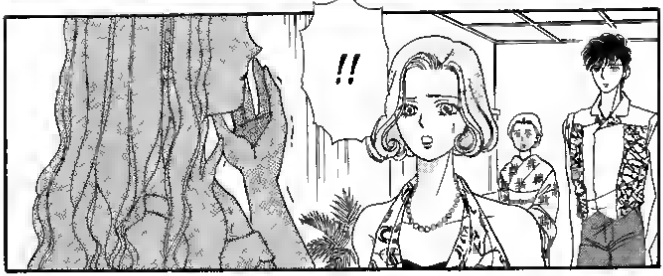
GLG
!?


* Fahmida's still wearing his sweetube! XD~ Rasha
WHATEVER IS THE MATTER?
.....
TO... TOKIWA-SAN?
NOTHING
JUST NOW I COULD'VE SWORN
THAT THE ROOM WAS FILLED WITH WATER
RATTLE


IT'S AN ORDINARY ROOM...
MY MAID SAWA-SAN
SHOUKO-SAMA?
WELCOME BACK MADAM
ANO?
HOW HAS NATSUKI BEEN SINCE I LEFT?
WELL, THAT IS
JUST NOW, WHEN THE DOOR OPENED... SHE
A WAVE...?


...TIDAL FLOW...

IT TICKLES


!!

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME ANYTHING LIKE THIS HAS HAPPENED!
SHE'S NEVER RESPONDED AT ALL BEFORE, NO MATTER WHO CAME...
NATSUKI MOVED!!
LOOK SHE'S RUNNING HER FINGERS THROUGH HER HAIR, BY HERSELF!
OH, I'M GLAD I CALLED YOU !!
...YES, I WAGER AN ORDINARY DOCTOR WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SEE THAT.
IT WASN'T AN ILLUSION
WHAT I SAW JUST NOW WAS REAL! WATER!

HAS NATSUKI-KUN RECENTLY BEEN TO THE BEACH?
Suzuki
Frick!
NATSUKI'S SOU...
AND IT'S SALTY...!
SEA-WATER ?
HAS LEFT HER BODY BEHIND...
AND SUNK TO THE OCEAN FLOOR...
NO SHE STAYS IN THE HOUSE
EVEN WHEN SHE COLLAPSED IT WAS IN THIS ROOM

Rise...
WHERE ON EARTH WOULD AN OCEAN BE, IN THIS ROOM...?
plash...
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?

1 Forest Creatures
2 Alien Creatures
3 Sea Creatures
1
2
3
#night_ex_e0_rc_chighway.net

flip flip
Sea Creatures
Learning Library
Sea Creatures

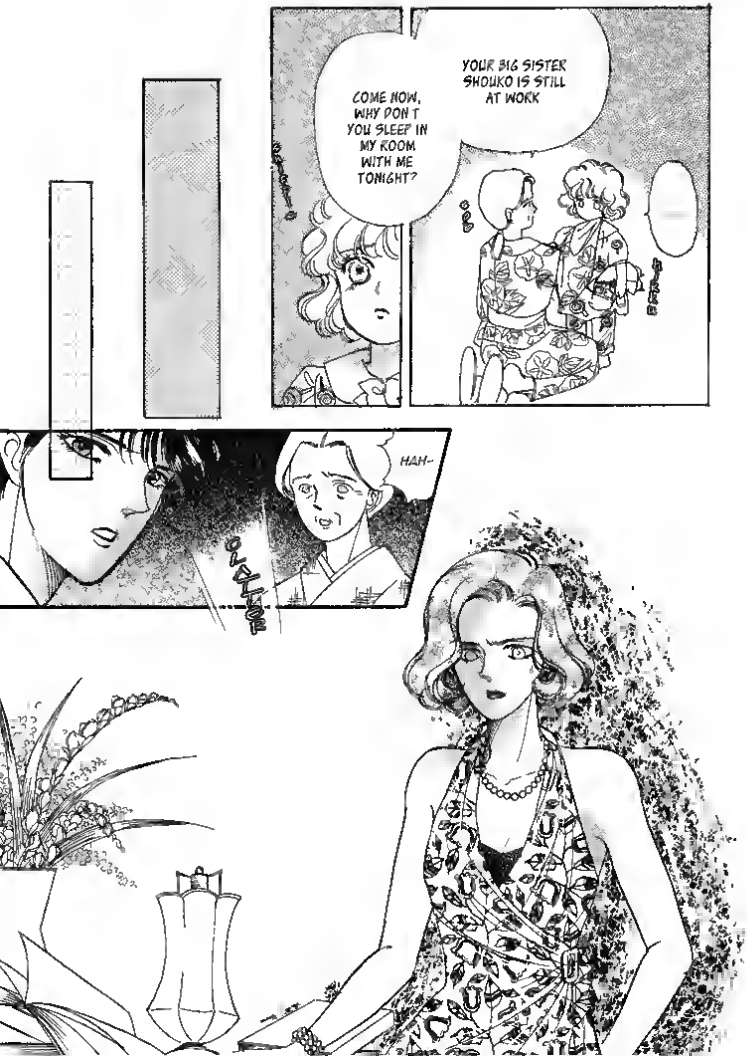
Coral Reef-Dwelling Fish
I'VE FOUND YOU...
...NATSUKI.

NATSUKI...?
WHAT A PEACEFUL EXPRESSION
"DON'T WORRY. I'LL GET YOU OUT OF THERE RIGHT AWAY."
THIS JOB WAS SIMPLER THAN I EXPECTED
WHY ARE YOU...?
Learning Library Series
N... NO... NOTHING IMPORTANT
TOKIWA-SAN? IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT BOOK?

EVEN THOUGH I BOUGHT HER SO MANY TOYS AND BOOKS
...TO MAKE UP FOR ALL THE TIMES I WAS BUSY AT WORK AND COULDN'T BE WITH HER
THAT HAS BEEN MISS NATSUKI'S FAVORITE BOOK SINCE SHE WAS SMALL.
AH COME TO THINK OF IT...
SHE TOLD ME ONCE THAT SHE'D HAD A FRIGHTENING DREAM...
Splish
plish
plash

http://www.mangaeden.com

*Note on book reads "Carthaginians Fish" -SakkaOnna


YOUR BIG SISTER SHOUKO IS STILL AT WORK
COME NOW, WHY DON'T YOU SLEEP IN MY ROOM WITH ME TONIGHT?
HAH-
GULP

AH... BUT IT WAS ONLY A CHILD'S SILLY NIGHTMARE...
I... I'M SURE SHE WAS STILL HALF-ASLEEP, AND REMEMBERED YOUR POOR, DEPARTED MOTHER
I'LL GO... MAKE SOME TEA, THEN
IF IT'S ABOUT MONEY, I'LL PAY ANYTHING YOU ASK!!
JUST... BRING BACK NATSUKI'S SOUL!!
THERE IS ONE WAY TO SAVE NATSUKI-KUN... ALTHOUGH...
TOKIWA-SAN!?

.....

VERY WELL.

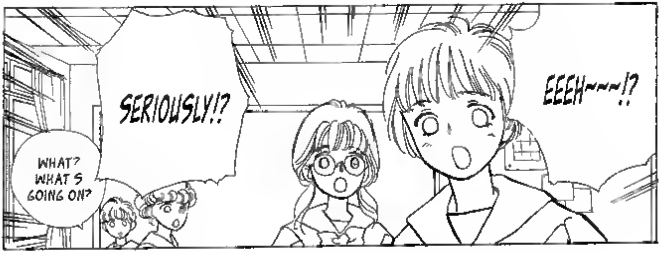
*Book title, "Sea Creatures" Gakkai Onna

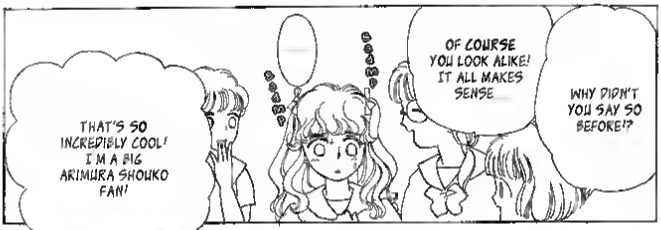
tsuki
NATSUKI-KUN
HEY THERE ...
GOOD AFTER-NOON.

WHO ...?
I'M TOKIWA. I'M A SCHOOL-TEACHER
A teacher !?
DON'T YOU LIKE SCHOOL, NATSUKI-KUN?
IS THERE SOMEONE THERE THAT BULLIES YOU? ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS?
N... NO...
THEN WHAT ABOUT YOUR BIG SISTER?
Flinch!
DO YOU HATE HER?
NO!!

NOT AT ALL!
I LOVE MY SISTER!!
I LOVE HER BEST IN THE WHOLE WORLD!
"BUT"?
...BUT...
IF I'M AROUND, IT CAUSES PROBLEMS FOR HER
D-DO I...?
ACTUALLY I'M HER SISTER...
SAY, NATSUKI-CHAN...
YOU REALLY LOOK LIKE THAT ACTRESS, ARIMURA SHOUKO
LIKE AT SCHOOL

* Natsuki calls Shouko "Onaochama" which (to me, anyway ^_^) makes her sound very rich, sheltered, and a bit young for her age. - SakkaOne





THAT'S SO INCREDIBLY COOL! I'M A BIG ARIMURA SHOUKO FAN!
OF COURSE YOU LOOK ALIKE! IT ALL MAKES SENSE
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO BEFORE!?

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EVERYONE PLEASE DON'T TALK TO ME
DON'T LOOK AT ME
SO... YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN BORN AROUND THE TIME YOUR SISTER DEBUTED AS AN IDOL SINGER, RIGHT?
THIS IS OUR SECRET, JUST MINE AND BIG SISTER'S
IF I'M AROUND, WILL HER SECRET BE EXPOSED, I?
SAY NATSUKI WHAT WAS SHE LIKE WHEN SHE WAS YOUNGER?
IS SHE THE SAME AT HOME AS SHE IS ON TV?

HIDE ME AWAY SOME-WHERE!!
NATSUKI-KUN
COULD YOU TELL ME THAT SECRET? JUST ME...?
SILENCE

SINK THAT SECRET INTO THE SE..., BY ITSELF...
...AND LET'S RISE TO THE SURFACE.
JUST ONE WORD WILL DO IT...
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SAY IT, AND YOU'LL BE FREE...
AH...
MY BIG SISTER SHOUKO
IS REALLY
YOU CAN DO IT...!!
SHE'S REALLY MY...
NATSUKI-CHAN!?

NATSUKI!?
SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'S IN PAIN! IS SHE ALL RIGHT!?
AH HEY!
UU
NATSUKI!? IT'S ME! YOUR SISTER! HOLD ON!!
JUST WHEN WE WERE ALMOST THERE!
I KNEW IT! I CAN'T !!
I MUSTN'T SAY IT!
NATSUKI!?
TOMOE

NATSUKI
...!?
JOKE...
Heh-!
PEHMUT!?

YOU LOOKED
YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE GOING TO FALL TOO. SO
YEAH
I'M ALL RIGHT NOW
NATSUKI HAS SUNK INTO AN ABYSS SO DEEP SHE CAN'T PULL HERSELF OUT
SHE'S FALLEN INTO A NIGHT-BLACK OCEAN.
...UNTOUCHED BY THE SUN.
BUT I CAN'T REACH HER ANYMORE...

JUST WHEN SHE WAS FINALLY ABOUT TO REACT TO MY VOICE
WHAT ARE YOU DAWDLING FOR!?
NATSUKI-KUN MAY BE HAPPIER THIS WAY, YOU KNOW.
WHAT!?
SHE'S LOCKED HERSELF UP FOR YOUR SAKE.
IF YOU DRAG HER BACK NOW, AGAIN, FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR EGO...
SVEN

...
NATSUKI IS MY LIFE...!
SHE'S IRREPLACEABLE!!
TEARS
IN THAT CASE...
PLEASE... SAVE SAVE HER...
IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR LIFE...

I ASSUME YOU WON'T CHANGE YOUR MIND PARTWAY THROUGH AND RUN AWAY?
Sho Shouko-sama!?
YES ! FINE!!
OF COURSE NOT_!!
JUST HURRY_ SAVE NATSUKI!!
VERY WELL.
WATER
TRANCE-BOUND SEA

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EH...?
...WHEN THEY ARE PULLED UP TO THE SURFACE?
SHOUKO-SAN.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO DEEP SEA FISH...
SFX: Shoot!
WHEN THEY'RE DRAGGED TO THE SURFACE BY FORCE FROM DEPTHS OF HUNDREDS...
THOUSANDS OF FEET...
...THAT UNIMAGINABLY ABRUPT CHANGE IN WATER PRESSURE!!
GWAAAAAH!!! Not another huge fish!
Slice-PX ~Scarlet~

SNAP!
THEIR EYEBALLS START OUT OF THEIR SOCKETS
THEIR INTERNAL ORGANS LEAP OUT OF THEIR MOUTHS!
THEIR SWOLLEN BLOOD VESSELS SPLIT OPEN...
KYAAAAAA!
POP
Thanks SO much for the graphic description, Tokiwa. Tsk. Tsk. Good thing I had already eaten!
Scarlet

* Aghh! >_< Poor kid, but OK — I - SakkaOnna
* Well in a case like dessert, one alone wasn't enough? *shrugs to SakkaOnna* X_X - ScarletXD

Clatter!

MO-MONSTER!

TMP TMP TMP

Our Our legs gave out

Gu..... ..Feee..

..Uu ........

...Ma
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
I want my mama too!!
~scarlet XD

NATSUKI ...!!
YES! IT'S MAMA!!
YOU CAN CALL ME MAMA!

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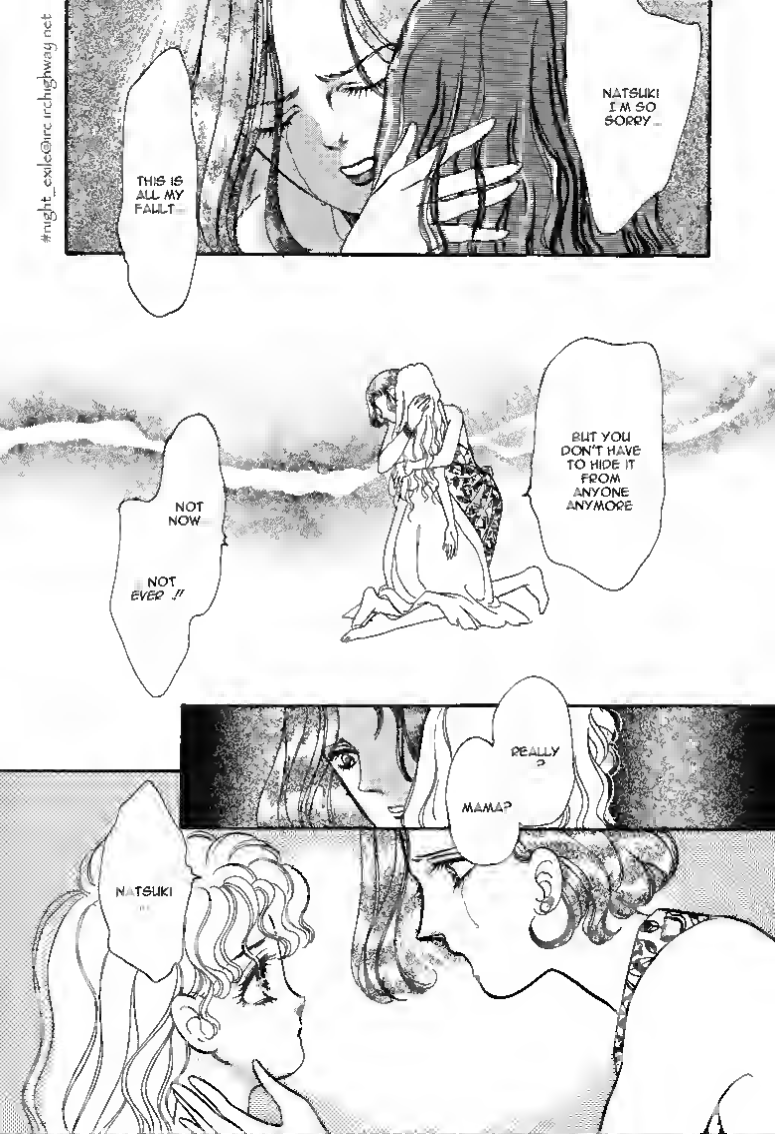

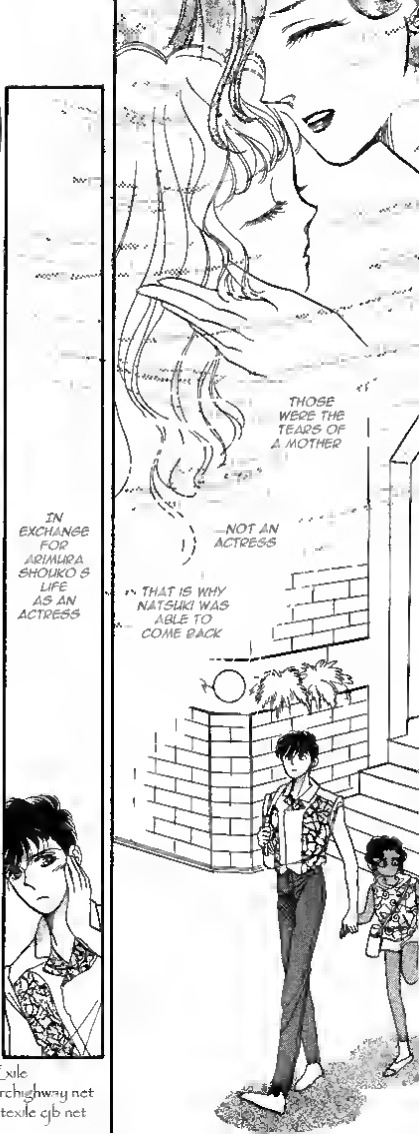
IN EXCHANGE FOR AKIMURA SHOUKO'S LIFE AS AN ACTRESS
THOSE WERE THE TEARS OF A MOTHER
—NOT AN ACTRESS
THAT IS WHY NATSUKI WAS ABLE TO COME BACK

Deep Sea Fish / End

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IF WE ARE SUCH THAT MAY NEVER MEET IN THIS WORLD...
...THE FLOWER SEES NOT THE LEAF, NO, THE LEAF THE FLOWER.
THOUGH THEY SHARE THE SAME ROOT...
...THEN AT LEAST...
...AT LEAST ON THAT SHORE----

*"That shore" is the afterworld, the opposite bank of the River Sanzu (or "River Styx" in Western mythology). -- Erikka Omra

Bloom On
That Shore
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PREPARE YOURSELF!
TOKIWA!
Spurt

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knock knock
AH SOME-ONE'S HERE
FEHMLIT, HIDE!
WELL, OF COURSE IT IS
IT ISN'T REAL BLOOD.
I used red food coloring so it's okay if you lick it!
Blech~ It's sweet!
I'M STILL NOT SURE I'M SATISFIED WITH THE WAY IT SPLATTERS, THOUGH
Maybe I shouldn't have put the honey in...
WHAT'S IT FOR, ANYWAY?

Uuuuuh...
EXCUSE ME
TOKIWA-SENSEI
I AM NAGA-MINE
OH YOU'RE UM... IN CLASS THREE
Right right!
HONESTLY! EVEN IF I AM ONLY A SUBSTITUTE TEACHER AND DID JUST TAKE UP MY POST HERE
UM... ERM... HUH?
IT'S NAGAMINE MAI...
Whirl
THIS GIRL REALLY DOESN'T LEAVE MUCH OF AN IMPRESSION DOES SHE?
Stage blood?
Slurp...
UM, IS THE STAGE BLOOD WE ASKED YOU FOR READY?

USING STAGE BLOOD IN A SCHOOL PLAY... YOU'RE QUITE SERIOUS HERE AREN'T YOU?
AT OUR SCHOOL, IT'S TRADITION FOR EACH CLASS TO PUT ON A PLAY IN A CONCOURSE-STYLE COMPETITION YEAR AFTER YEAR
UM...
MM... WELL, IT'S GETTING THERE, BUT...
DO YOU THINK THERE'S A BIT MORE TIME FOR RESEARCH?
THEY'RE PICKY ABOUT THE PROPS AND COSTUMES, TOO. NOT JUST THE CONTENTS OF THE PLAY.
I SEE
WE- WELL THEN, WHAT'S THE PLAY ABOUT? WHAT SORT OF STORY IS IT?
WOW... AND WHAT ROLE ARE YOU PLAYING, NAGAMINE?
I... I'M JUST AN EXTRA IN A CROWD SCENE

THE STORY
WAS BASED ON A MYTH HANDED DOWN IN THIS REGION...
LONG, LONG AGO, A BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS CALLED ASAKA
WAS KIDNAPPED BY A HORRIBLE ONI CALLED "ONIHACHI"
SHE LIVED IN THE ONI'S LAIR DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS, AND SPENT EVERY DAY IN TEARS
ONE DAY...
A YOUNG SAMURAI WHO HAPPENED TO BE CROSSING THE PASS...
...SAW THE PRINCESS'S BEAUTY REFLECTED IN THE STILL SURFACE OF A POOL, AND INSTANTLY FELL IN LOVE WITH HER

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THE YOUNG SAMURAI CAME WHILE ONIHACHI WAS AWAY, AND RESCUED THE PRINCESS FROM THE MOUNTAIN LAIR...
...SO...WITH ONE BLOW OF HIS SWORD...THE YOUNG SAMURAI STRUCK OFF ONIHACHI'S HEAD...
HOWEVER, ROBBED OF HIS PRINCESS, ONIHACHI WENT MAD WITH RAGE...
...AND BEGAN TO RAMPAGE THROUGH THE VILLAGES...
THE HEAD WAS BURIED IN THE EARTH NEAR HERE, SEALED SO IT COULD NEVER RISE AGAIN

GOOD! OKAY, VILLAGE GIRLS A, B AND C, WITHDRAW TO STAGE RIGHT
GRIP
Kage-tsuna-sama.
Princess
UGH-!
GO AND LIVE AS YOU WISH FROM NOW ON
THE ONI WHO TORMENTED YOU IS DEAD YOU ARE FREE
PRIN-CESS!!
IS TO LIVE MY LIFE BY YOUR SIDE, MY LORD
MY WISH

BUT
TH T ONI SOMEHOW...
I FEEL JUST A LITTLE BIT
SORRY FOR HIM
POOR THING

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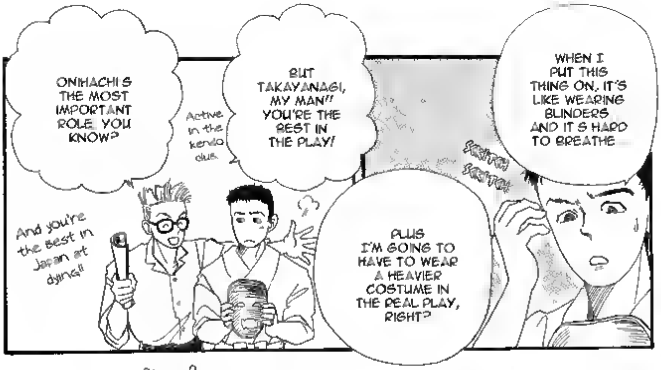
MURMUR
MAN~! THIS IS LOOKING PRETTY GOOD, PEOPLE!
GOOD! OKAY!!
I TELL Y... OUR CLASS'S HERO AND HEROINE ARE THE BEST IN THE SCHOOL!
I I'M SORRY
AH NAGAMINE, WHEN YOU'RE EXITING INTO THE WINGS, STEP IT UP A LITTLE
YOU'RE A BIT PLAYER, AND THEY CAN'T STAND OUT
OH HO HO HO!
SO MAYBE THEIR ACTING'S KINDA HAMMY BUT IF THEY LOOK GOOD, NO ONE'S GOING TO CARE~!
YOU SAID IT! THEY LOOK GOOD EVEN WHEN THEY'RE JUST STANDING AROUND!
BWAH~! IT'S HOT UNDER THIS THING!


ONIHACHI IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ROLE, YOU KNOW?
And you're the best in Japan at dying!!
Active in the kendo club.
BUT TAKAYANAGI, MY MAN!!! YOU'RE THE BEST IN THE PLAY!
PLUS I'M GOING TO HAVE TO WEAR A HEAVIER COSTUME IN THE REAL PLAY, RIGHT?
WHEN I PUT THIS THING ON, IT'S LIKE WEARING BLINDERS AND IT'S HARD TO BREATHE...
SWITCH

Ah ha ha!
He could play the ONI WITHOUT the mask!
YOU MEAN I COULDN'T BE THE HERO ANYWAY, NOT WITH THIS FACE...
Tch!

KLUNK
stomp stomp
LIGHTS LIGHTS...
HEY DID ANYBODY GET THE LIGHTS?
BYE-BYE~!
OKAY, WE'LL PICK UP HERE AGAIN AFTER SCHOOL TOMORROW

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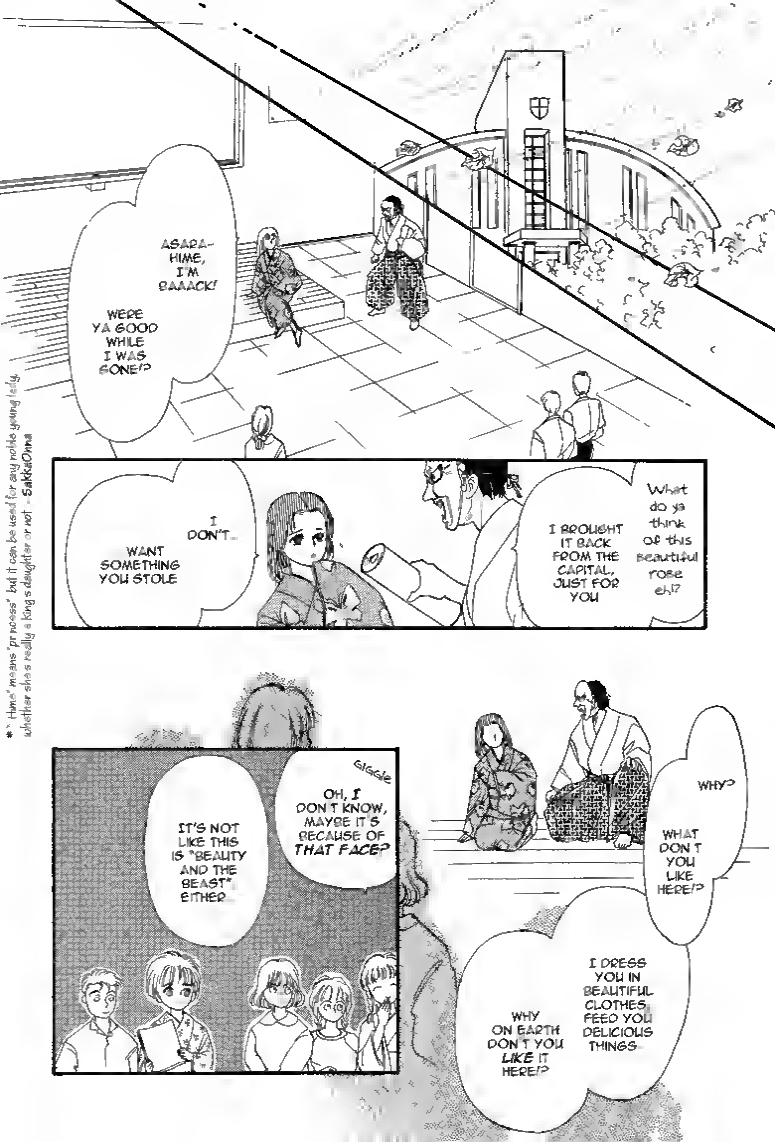
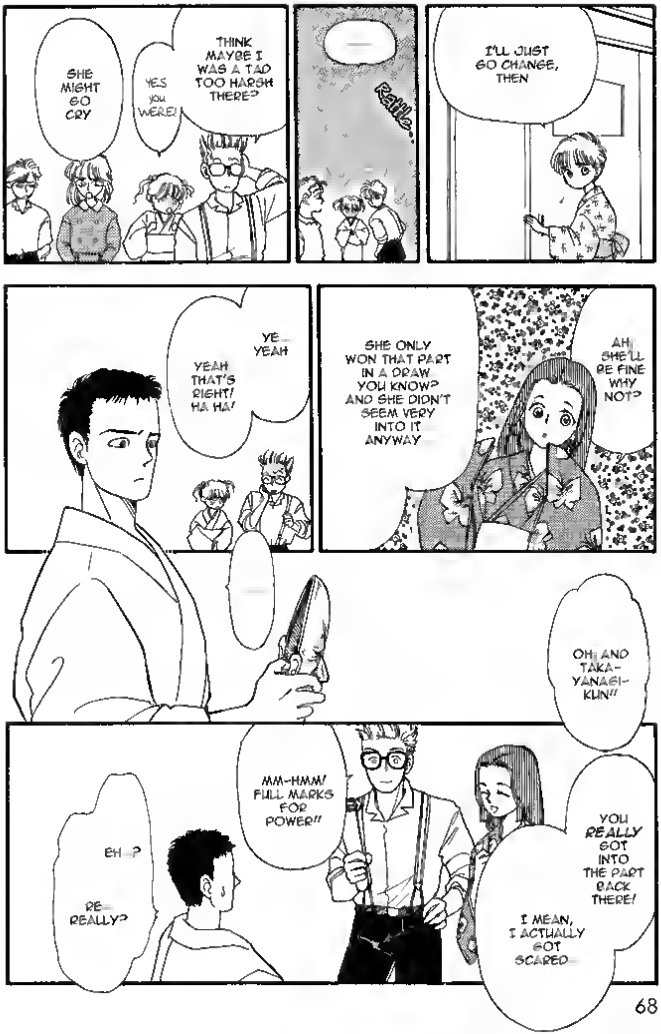

ASAPA-HIME, I'M BAAACK!
WERE YA GOOD WHILE I WAS GONE!?
I DON'T... WANT SOMETHING YOU STOLE
I BROUGHT IT BACK FROM THE CAPITAL, JUST FOR YOU
What do ya think of this beautiful rose eh!?
Giggle
OH, I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT FACE?
IT'S NOT LIKE THIS IS "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" EITHER
WHY?
WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE HERE!?
I DRESS YOU IN BEAUTIFUL CLOTHES, FEED YOU DELICIOUS THINGS
WHY ON EARTH DON'T YOU LIKE IT HERE!?

*: "Hime" means "princess" but it can be used for any noble young lady, whether she's really a king's daughter or not. - SakkaOma

...HIS FACE...?
BECAUSE HE'S UGLY...?
IS THAT WHY HE ISN'T LOVED...? BECAUSE HE LOOKS SCARY!?
NEXT/
THE SCENE AFTER KAGETSUNA AND THE PRINCESS ESCAPE
UGUUUU~!
WHERE IS ASADA!? WHERE HAVE THEY HIDDEN MY PRINCESS!?

Give back my princess--!
SORROW ...
...TWISTS INTO RAGE...
...AND INTO AN EVEN DEEPER...
...HATRED...

CLATTER!
KYA!
!!
CUT!
CUUUT!
NAGA-MINE!
YOU AGAIN!?
I'M SORRY
Y'KNOW, THERE'S JUST ONE OF YOU, BUT YOU MANAGE TO THROW THE TEMPO WAY OFF...
MM...
LOOK I'M SORRY, BUT I'D LIKE TO SWITCH YOU OUT WOULD YOU MIND WORKING WITH THE PROPS INSTEAD?
NO I UNDER-STAND...


I'LL JUST GO CHANGE, THEN
Rattle
THINK MAYBE I WAS A TAD TOO HARSH THERE?
YES you WERE!
SHE MIGHT GO CRY
AH, SHE'LL BE FINE WHY NOT?
SHE ONLY WON THAT PART IN A DRAW YOU KNOW? AND SHE DIDN'T SEEM VERY INTO IT ANYWAY
YE— YEAH
YEAH THAT'S RIGHT! HA HA!
OH, AND TAKA-YANAGI-KUN!!
YOU REALLY GOT INTO THE PART BACK THERE!
I MEAN, I ACTUALLY GOT SCARED—
MM-HMM! FULL MARKS FOR POWER!!
EH—?
RE— REALLY?

SO- SOMEHOW, IT WAS SO HOT AND HARD TO BREATHE, I KINDA ZONED OUT
I DIDN'T REALLY KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING.
Oh, quit with the modesty!
You've got the award for "Best Supporting Male Actor" in the bag!
WHACK!
WHACK!
NAGA- MINE!
Ba-dump!

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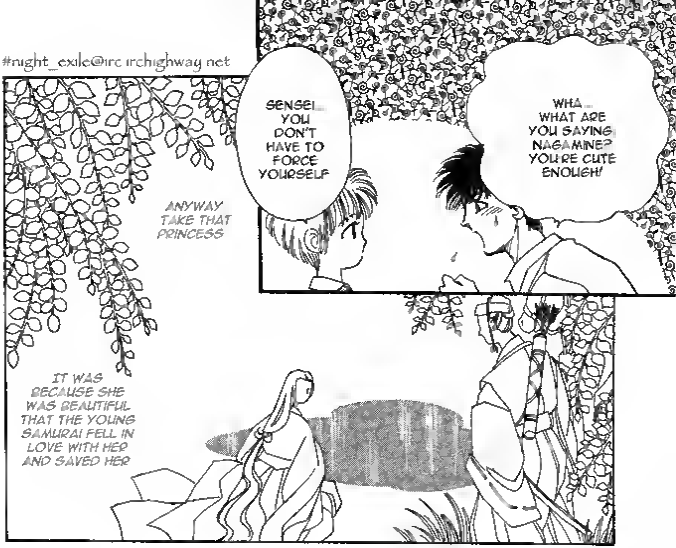
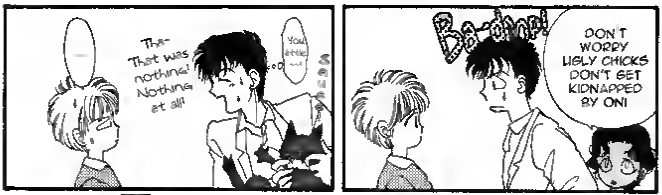
IF I REMEMBER RIGHTLY, THE "REFLECTING POOL" IS THE SCENE WHERE THE YOUNG SAMURAI MEETS THE PRINCESS, ISN'T IT?
TOKI-WA-SENSEI!
SENSEI...
DID THEY? I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT.
I I'VE BEEN DROPPED FROM THE PLAY THEY TOOK MY PART AWAY

IT'S... NOT SO BAD
I'M NOT ANGRY ABOUT IT, OR SAD
IT WAS JUST A BIT-PART ANYWAY
IT'LL BE THE SAME NO MATTER WHO PLAYS IT
NAGA-MINE

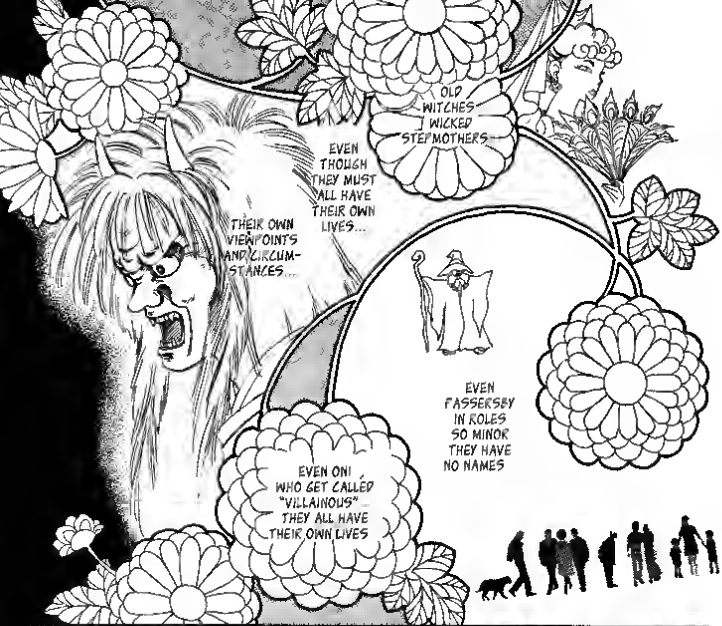
EH...!?
You're kinda dumb... aren't you sensei
WELL THEN... WORK HARD SO YOU CAN LAND THE LEAD ROLE NEXT YEAR
YOU CAN'T BE THE HEROINE UNLESS YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL
I'LL BE A BIT-PLAYER FOR LIFE


SENSEI... YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF
WHA... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, NAGAMINE? YOU'RE CUTE ENOUGH!
ANYWAY TAKE THAT PRINCESS
IT WAS BECAUSE SHE WAS BEAUTIFUL THAT THE YOUNG SAMURAI FELL IN LOVE WITH HER AND SAVED HER



I NEVER LIKED THE ENDINGS THEY HAVE IN FAIRYTALES, WHERE THE HANDSOME GUY AND THE BEAUTIFUL GIRL LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER.
I'M NOT SAYING THAT BECAUSE I'M ALL CYNICAL OR ANYTHING...
BUT YOU KNOW, EVEN WHEN I WAS LITTLE...

*Did I mention that I REALLY love Fairies!? XD Reisha


OLD WITCHES / WICKED STEPMOTHERS
EVEN THOUGH THEY MUST ALL HAVE THEIR OWN LIVES...
THEIR OWN VIEWPOINTS AND CIRCUM-STANCES...
EVEN PASSERSBY IN ROLES SO MINOR THEY HAVE NO NAMES
EVEN ONI WHO GET CALLED "VILLAINOUS" THEY ALL HAVE THEIR OWN LIVES

AM I TO INFER THAT YOU LIKE THE ONI BETTER THAN THE YOUNG SAMURAI NAGAMINE?
EH ?

IT...
ISN'T THAT I "LIKE" HIM, EXACTLY...
BUT THAT'S ONLY SYMPATHY
IT'S NOT "LIKE"

SWIP!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT THE EQUINOX FLOWER?
THAT "THE FLOWER SEES NOT THE LEAF, NOR THE LEAF THE FLOWER"
IF THIS IS IN FACT THE LAND OF THE LEGEND
THE SCATTERED POINTS OF RED ARE LIKE...
THE SPRAY OF THE ONI'S BLOOD
SINCE THE LEAVES SPROUT AFTER THE FLOWERS HAVE SCATTERED
...THE FLOWERS AND LEAVES NEVER FLOURISH TOGETHER EVEN THOUGH THEY GROW FROM THE SAME ROOT
ONE CAN NEVER SEE THE OTHER

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EH!?
WHERE...!?
TO... TOKIWA-SENSEI!?
WHERE IS THIS PLACE!?
THERE ARE EQUINOX FLOWERS EVERYWHERE

Ba-Dump!
RUSTLE
Uu...
THE ONI !?

My...
...beloved Asara-hime...
Rustle!
Prin
cess
!!
...In the end, you never...
...returned my feelings...
If...
...had been human...

If I had met you as a handsome, dashing young man...
...would you have loved me then...?
ONI...
Prin-cess...

Hah-!
AH...
...!?
WHAT WAS THAT
AN ILLUSION !?
Ssh
Bashi
IS SOMETHING VERY PRECIOUS
EVEN IF IT'S IN SYMPATHY
...SHEDDING TEARS FOR SOMEONE ELSE
SENSEI

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AH, THAT'S RIGHT!
THE "OBJECT IN QUESTION" IS FINISHED I WAS JUST ON MY WAY TO DELIVER IT
OH WELL, EVERYONE WILL BE IN THE CLASSROOM PRACTICING RIGHT NOW.
2-3
RATTLE
KYAAA!

OH MAN, I'M SORRY!! MY AIM WAS OFF
IT'S FINE— IT'S JUST A SCRATCH
YOUR ARM!
RAISE IT ABOVE THE LEVEL OF YOUR HEART!
DOUT!
THEY DON'T COME MUCH BLUNTER THAN THAT
BUT THAT SWORD WAS...
Mutter
Mutter
Mutter
Call an ambulance!
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT
DON'T SWEAT IT
IT WAS JUST BAD LUCK
IT ISN'T YOUR FAULT
HE'S RIGHT... TAKAYANAGI

night_exile@irc.irchighway.net

Ah...
Here's the...
BUT EVEN IF WE TRY TO SET UP AN UNDERSTUDY NOW, ALL THE OTHER GUYS IN OUR CLASS ARE NERDS
Mon Dieu!
Oh, We're REAL sorry!
HE PROBABLY WON'T HEAL UP IN TIME FOR THE FESTIVAL.
LOOKS LIKE HE WON'T BE USING THAT ARM FOR A WHILE
Heck this way we might even get the prize for "most talked about"
SAAAY! TOKIWA-SENSEI, WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THE PART? IT'S A REALLY CHOICE HEARTTHROB ACTOR ROLE!
HIS COSTUME SHOULD FIT YOU TOO
EH!? M-ME!?
YES SIR JUST THOUGHT I'D ASK
IT'S ALL RIGHT. JUST THOUGHT I'D ASK
YEAH, GUESS NOT. HUH? COULDN'T EXPECT YOU TO TAKE IT ON
I'LL DO IT.
IT'S FINE

*Writing on blackboard "Sept 18th Science for Year 2, Class 3 is STUDY HALL (until the school festival) - SakkaOnna

*Note on script cover "Onzuka"
Note on back, "Year 2, Class 3"
As far as I can tell "Onzuka" just means "On Hill" or "On Mound"
SakkaOnna

THE LEGENDARY ONI...
THE ONI THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SEALED AWAY A THOUSAND YEARS AGO...
I DON'T KNOW HOW HE WAS BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE BUT...
YOU SAW IT, TOO, DIDN'T YOU?
THE ONI, IN THAT CLASSROOM
IN ANY CASE IF THE ONI IS SOMEHOW TIED TO THIS PLAY, THEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT MAY HAPPEN TO THE STUDENTS...
AND THE ONE WHO PLAYS THE YOUNG SAMURAI HIS LOVE RIVAL IS IN THE GREATEST DANGER OF ALL
Kaoruko
Aura
Kaoruko
HUH!
MEANING YOU'RE WORKING FOR FREE AGAIN
TAP TAP
WHO IS IT?
COME IN
KNOCK KNOCK
SSH!
OH, NAGA-MINE
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

SHOULD I READ THE OTHER LINES OUT FOR YOU..?
It's easier to remember them that way.
IF YOU'RE PRACTICING YOUR LINES...
UM.
HMM?
OH I SEE!!
YOU'RE A LIFE-SAVER NAGA-MINE!
Yes!!
Yes, please!!

TOKIWA-SENSEI!
♡
Lookin' GOOD~!
The best in Japan!
Hey, listen! Is it okay if we leave off the wig and the cap?
Cause you KNOW the judges are gonna love THIS!
OH, DOES IT PAY TO GET THERE EARLY FIRST!
Gasp!
Tokiwa-sensei's going to be in Class Three's play?
Kyaaaa!
But I wanna see it!
32nd Cultural Festival
ASAGA-HIME TOOK A FALL DOWN THE STAIRS!
BAD NEWS!!

• "Yuuzuru" translates to "Evening Crane". The play was first performed in 1949 and is based on a fairy tale called "The Crane's Grat Tribute" — **SakkaiOnna**

WHA— WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT—!?
SHE'S THE WORST ONE HERE—
NAGAMINE CAN DO IT, NO PROBLEM
TAKAYA-NAGI?
MURMUR MURMUR
NN—!
NAGAMINE ALWAYS WATCHED OUR PRACTICES EVEN WHEN IT WASN'T HER TURN TO GO ON
Gahh—! So help me I'm desperate!!
BRING THE COSTUME HERE!
GIRLS! GET HER MAKEUP ON!
SNATCH!
BEH!?
BU- BUT I WAIT—
TAKAYANAGI-KUN
YOU KNEW—?
PLUS SHE'S BEEN HELPING TOKIWA-SENSEI PRACTICE HIS LINES

Next is Year 2's Class 3, with...
"Onizuka"
NAGA-MINE
SE SENSEI
I CAN'T DO THIS!
NOT NOT IN FRONT OF ALL THOSE PEOPLE--

nightrevolc@rc.runninghway.net

WHERE ?!
I KNOW THIS HILL.
IT FEELS LIKE I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE SOMEWHERE.
ASARA-HIME
HEH?

COME, TAKE MY HAND.
SEN--
KAGE-TSUNA-SAMA!
CAREFUL.. YOU MUSTN'T LET GO.
AIYA!
MY PRINCESS IS GONE!
WOULOJA LOOK AT THAT? THIS IS SHAPING UP PRETTY GOOD!

GIVE BACK MY PRINCESS!
WAIT! STOP!
Eeh!? That's Nagamine-san from class three?
No way! That plain Jane!?
SSH!
I WON'T LET YOU GO ONE STEP FARTHER!
NOW PRINCESS COME HOME WITH ME!
NNGH-!
I WON'T!!
EVEN IF IT KILLS ME I WON'T GO BACK TO YOU!
IN THAT CASE--

Then I will turn you both to rust on my blade...
SORROW TURNS TO RAGE...
RAGE BECOMES HATRED
CLANG
HE CAME JUST AS I EXPECTED!!

CLAANG
GGH-!
KYAAA!
HE'S BLEEDING...
DON'T PANIC. THAT'S THE STAGE-BLOOD TOKIWA -SENSEI MADE.
WAIT A SEC... THE ONLY ONE WITH STAGE BLOOD IS THE ONI NO ONE ELSE WAS SUPPOSED TO GET CUT, SO...
EH!?

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THIS IS REALLY INTENSE SOMEHOW
IT'S ALMOST LIKE THOSE SWORDS ARE REAL
NAH, CAN'T BE
.....
CLASH
CLASH
IF I KEEP GOING EASY ON HIM LIKE THIS, I'LL REALLY BE DONE FOR
Pant
Pant
BUT MY OPPONENT IS USING TAKAY-NAEY'S BODY..

Pant...
Pant...
HOW CAN I CUT THE ONI WITHOUT HARMING TAKEYANAGI?
THERE...!?!
TMP!
CRACK

SPLASH!
AAAAA!
IT'S STAGE BLOOD
IT'S SWEET
CRUMPLE

NOW THEN PRINCESS!
YOU ARE FREE
FROM NOW ON, LIVE AS YOU WISH...
kachik!
Phew!
WE'VE MADE IT TO THE LAST SCENE, SOMEHOW
I WISH...
I...
MY WISH
I WISH

#right_exile@irc.irchighway.net

SO DO AS YOU WISH
ATTUNED ITSELF TO YOU'S THOUGHTS AND ANGER...

GEEEEH!
Huh!?
Was this how the legend of Onizuka went?
Kyaa
WHA-!?
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, KAGETSUNA-SAMA
SLUMP

...WE WILL SURELY BE ABLE TO BLOOM TOGETHER.

EVEN IF HIS FORM IS UGLY....

...HE WAS KIND ENOUGH TO LOVE ME FROM THE BOTTOM OF HIS HEART...

I WILL.

...GO WITH ONIHACHI.

AND IF IT SHOULD BE THAT, IN THIS WORLD ONI AND HUMANS ARE FATED TO BE FOREVER APART...

A...

S...

...I SHALL CAST MYSELF DOWN TO THE WAY OF DEMONS *

*"The Way of Demons" is "Kodo", one of the six realms in Buddhism - SakkaOnna

*Going around with a few strands of hair caught in the corner of your mouth. The way Nagame is here... is a classic way of describing a Japan and shows up in countless other stories. (I've never seen this look on a guy though so I'm not sure if it's just for women.) - SakkaOnna

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* I don't know too much about it but stabbing yourself in the throat seems to be the female version of honorable ritual suicide the male parallel is seppuku or belly-cutting – SakkaOnna

I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY! YOU JUST TRASHED THE PLAY!
NAGAMINE, YOU--- YOU~~~!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
AND, UH...
EH...?
You know, it really could've been like that... couldn't it?
Yeah! It was a complete and total reversal
I was pretty moved actually.
CLAP
CLAP CLAP CLAP
EH? H-HUH? AH HA HA HAH! WAS IT REALLY? I GUESS IT WAS. WASN'T IT...?
That little~~!
Hypocrite!
WELL NOW, INOUE-KUN! THAT WAS A SPLENDIDLY ORIGINAL PRODUCTION.
...BUT EVERYTHING ELSE WAS REAL, YOU KNOW.
THE BLOOD ON MY CHEST WAS STAGE BLOOD I'D KEPT BACK JUST IN CASE...
BE A BIT MORE GENTLE, WOULD YOU?
OW OW OW-!

GRUMBLE MUTTER
You realize the princess tumped you right?
What a stupid part getting stabbed to death by a woman
I THINK SO, TOO...
AN ANCIENT LOVE STORY COMES TO A CLOSE, ONCE AGAIN
AND THE HEROINE OF A NEW STORY STEPS FORTH...
To Bloom on That Shore / End
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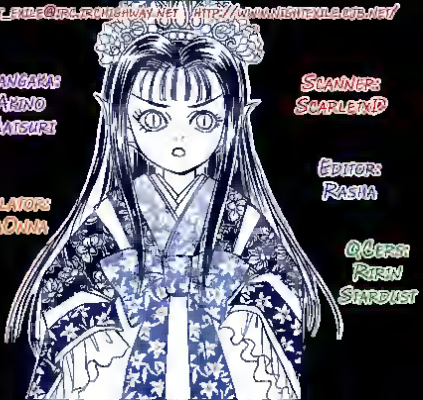

# Reikan Shouhou Kabushikigaisha

## by Akino Matsuri

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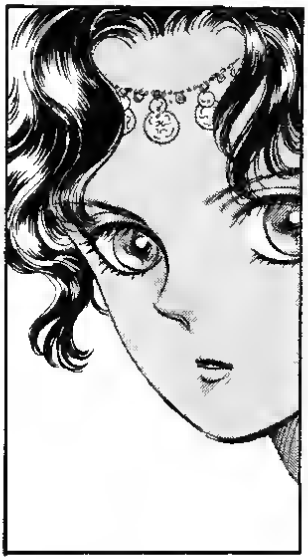

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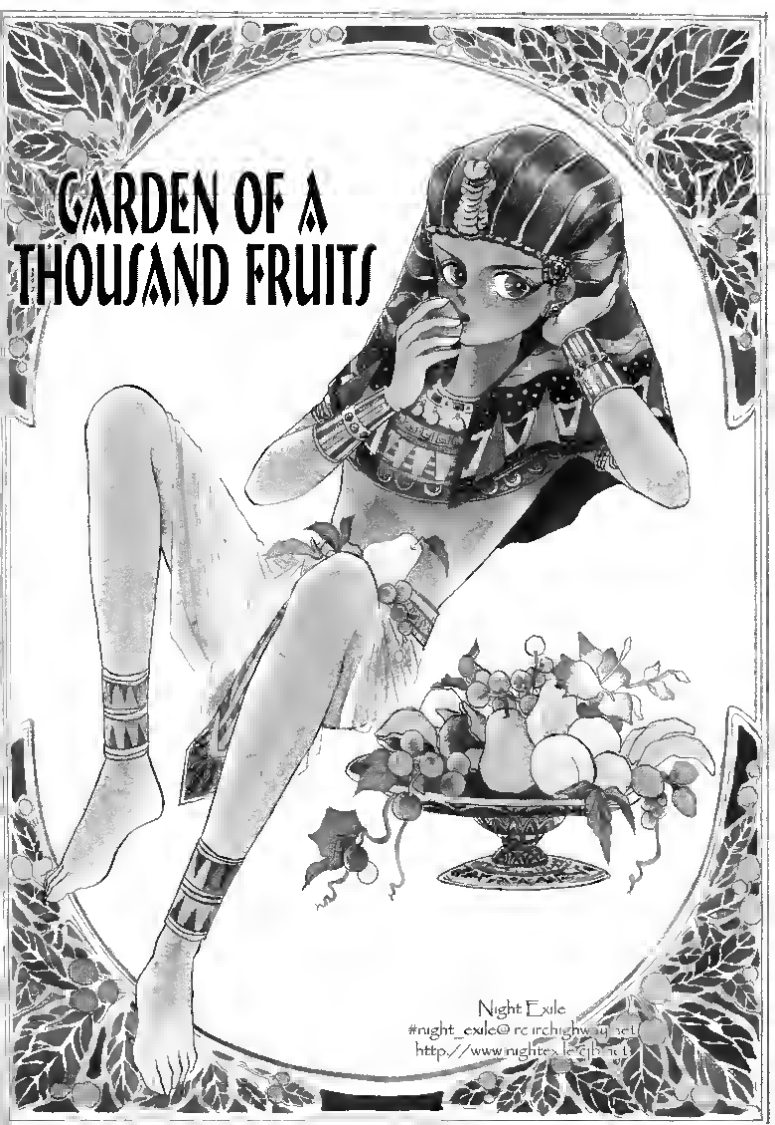
# GARDEN OF A THOUSAND FRUITS



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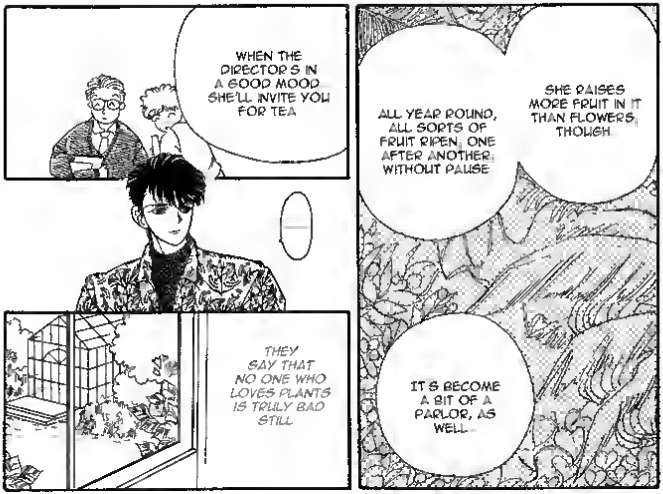
THIS IS A GARDEN OF ETERNAL SUMMER, WHERE A THOUSAND FRUITS RIPEN
ALL FOUR SEASONS IN JUMBLED CONFUSION — EVEN FRUITS FROM FAR ACROSS THE SEA, REDOLENT OF THE SOUTHERN ISLES
PLUMS AND APRICOTS, RED PLUMS AND APPLES
CHOCOLATE-VINE AND TANGERINES AND PERSIMMONS AND GRAPES
HOWEVER, IN THIS GLASS PARADISE THERE IS ONE FRUIT - ONLY ONE - WHICH DOES NOT GROW

* The patch on Tokiwa's jacket says "harmful effects" (as in chemicals, radiation, etc.) - SakkaOnna

Shake
Shake
YOUR CLOTHES ARE A MESS TOO ABSOLUTELY SLOVENLY!
CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT UNKEMPT HAIR OF YOURS!?
A AH...
YOU MAY BE ONLY A SUBSTITUTE TEACHER BUT I STILL EXPECT—
ALL OF OUR GIRLS AT THIS SCHOOL COME FROM GOOD FAMILIES! WE HAVE LONG YEARS OF TRADITION BEHIND US!
TOKIWA-SENSEI!
YAAA!
GOOD-BY-E!
Sniff
Gaang
Gaang
Gaang
Hmph
Ah— Director that's the first bell!
Sniff Sniff
STOP RIGHT THERE! THAT CAT-!!
*SFX Eh!

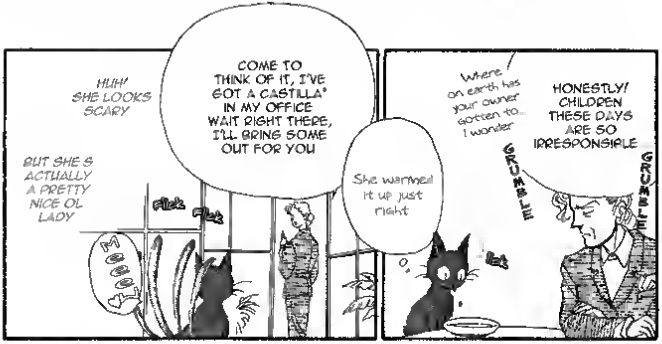
FEH...
FEHMUT...
AND JUST WHO BROUGHT THEIR CAT TO SCHOOL!?
HONESTLY!! WHAT DO THEY THINK SCHOOL IS!?
COME NOW, WHO DID THIS!?
Don't grab our Struggle
Bla Bla Bla
kick
I'm sorry
Every man for himself~~
...
About Face
Ah!
TAAA

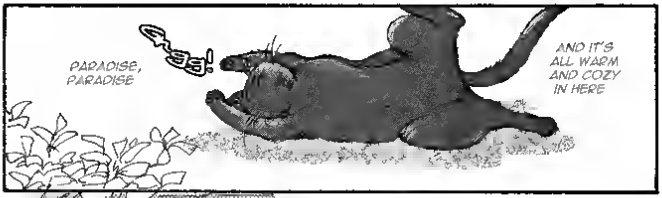
OUR DIRECTOR IS PASSIONATE ABOUT EDUCATION... WHICH IS FINE, BUT I THINK SHE MIGHT BE A WEE BIT TOO STRICT FOR TODAY'S KIDS
...THAT SAID, SHE'S A SPINSTER WHO'S COMPLETELY THROWN HERSELF INTO EDUCATION, AND EVEN FOR US TEACHERS SHE'S A BIT HARD TO APPROACH... ERM, I MEAN, WE ALL RESPECT HER GREATLY
Gaaaaarg...
THE DIRECTOR RAN YOU THROUGH THE WRINGER AGAIN THIS MORNING, EH, TOKIWA-KUN?
Good Morning
EVER SINCE THEN, SHE'S ALWAYS SAID, "MY PUPILS ARE MY CHILDREN"
BUT THEN HER CHILD DIED AT A VERY YOUNG AGE...
OH, BUT THE DIRECTOR WAS MARRIED ONCE, A LONG TIME AGO
THE DIRECTOR TENDS THAT ALL BY HERSELF...
YOU'VE SEEN THAT GREENHOUSE IN THE CORNER OF THE GROUNDS, HAVEN'T YOU?
THE ONE HOBBY OF OUR BATTLE-AXE OF A DIRECTOR IS...

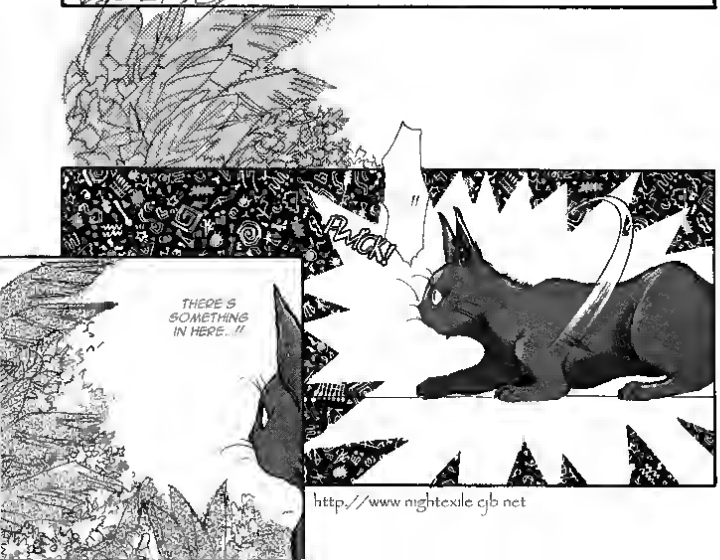

WHEN THE DIRECTOR'S IN A GOOD MOOD SHE'LL INVITE YOU FOR TEA
THEY SAY THAT NO ONE WHO LOVES PLANTS IS TRULY BAD STILL
ALL YEAR ROUND, ALL SORTS OF FRUIT RIPEN, ONE AFTER ANOTHER, WITHOUT PAUSE
SHE RAISES MORE FRUIT IN IT THAN FLOWERS, THOUGH
IT'S BECOME A BIT OF A PARLOR, AS WELL

I WONDER IF FEHMUT'S ALL RIGHT
THERE YOU GO
GO AHEAD, DRINK ALL YOU LIKE

* Castilla is a type of pound cake that was first brought to Japan by the Portuguese and is usually thought of in conjunction with Nagasaki. It's not too sweet like plain kind's flavored with brandy, but there are chocolate and sweet bean varieties too. ~ SakkaOnna


HUH! SHE LOOKS SCARY
BUT SHE'S ACTUALLY A PRETTY NICE OL' LADY
COME TO THINK OF IT, I'VE GOT A CASTILLA* IN MY OFFICE WAIT RIGHT THERE, I'LL BRING SOME OUT FOR YOU
Flick Flick
Meow
She warmed it up just right
Where on earth has your owner gotten to... I wonder
GRUMBLE
HONESTLY! CHILDREN THESE DAYS ARE SO IRRESPONSIBLE
MUTTERING

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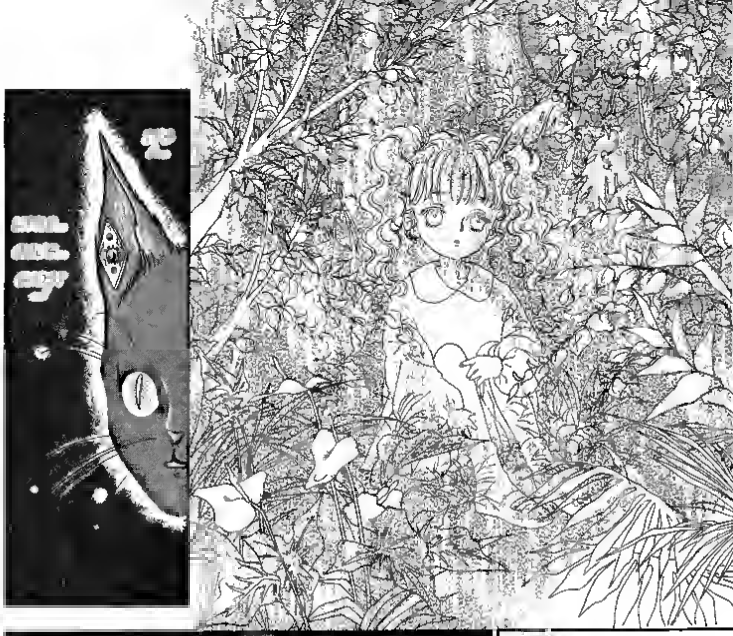

HUH?
MEOW...
CAN'T TALK TO HER THIS WAY, CAN WE?
HUP!

WHA---!? WHAT RE YOU SCARED OF, YOU FOOL? YOU RE A GHOST!
Humph!
WE WON'T HARM YOU
WHAT S YOUR NAME?
CHI CHINATSU
HMM! SO, YOU COULDN'T "PASS ON" EITHER, HUH?
WHAT S "PA. PASS ON"?
MM— WE DON'T UNDERSTAND IT ALL THAT WELL EITHER!!

*"Interesting pun at the king (or "Chinatsu" means "A Thousand summers" - Sakkaku Onna

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, ALL BY YOURSELF!?
OH OF COURSE SHE CAN'T SEE HER
"BY OURSELF"? WE'RE NOT...
WHO ARE YOU!?
HM?
ARE WE FOUND OUT!?
AHA! YOU WOULDN'T BE THAT CAT--
STEAL!?
WHAT INSOLENCE! WE ARE NO THIEF!
SO YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S BEEN STEALING FRUIT FROM MY GREENHOUSE LATELY!
Giggle!
TH- THA- YEAH, THAT'S IT...
'S OWNER, WOULD YOU!?
That's m

*Guess! on "(most) people can't see ghosts, how come everybody can see Fahmai!?" ☺ - Rasha

YOU BOTH HAVE MATCHING EARRINGS, DON'T YOU
Y YEAH, WE DO
Shut up!
...
Giggle
Giggle
DID YOU COME LOOKING FOR YOUR LOST CAT?
IT'S STRANGE HE WAS HERE JUST A MOMENT AGO
AH... NEVER FEAR HE'S... UH... BOUND TO BE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE
OH AND BY THE WAY, CHILD...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE AT THIS HOUR?
WHERE IS YOUR SCHOOL?
WHAT IS YOUR NAME? YOUR ADDRESS?
Uh...
No, we...
That's... um...
STOP RIGHT THERE!
SCRAMBLE
STOMP
OH, CRAP!
RUN FOR IT!
RUSTLE
WELL, I NEVER! YOU GIRLS...

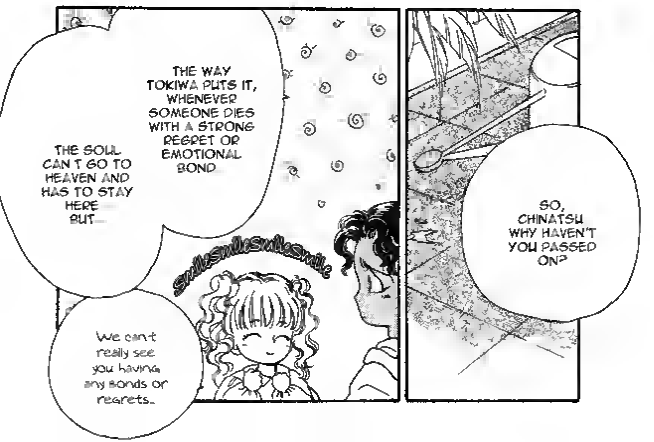
WE WE SHOULD GET OUT OF HERE WHILE WE CAN
WILL YOU COME AGAIN ?
L TER!
YEAH.. IF I FEEL LIKE IT

FEHMUT!
I DIDN'T EXACTLY OFFER YOU UP AS A FELINE SACRIFICE, YOU KNOW!
SO BE GOOD AND STAY HOME TOMORROW...
At least now you know what terrifying places girls' schools can be right?
Hey are you listening to me!?
We prefer them a bit older than that, but...
SHE WAS RATHER ADORABLE
THAT GIRL THOUGH
WE'LL GO TO THAT GREENHOUSE AGAIN TOMORROW!!
If we go as a cat... we'll be treated well too.
RIGHT!
THAT'S Fehmut's type? Older women like the director?
Well I'll be.
EEH!?
Uhm, hello?
Fehmut-kun?
GOOD-NIGHT!
FUWAMP!
DOU


http://www.nightexile.gb.net

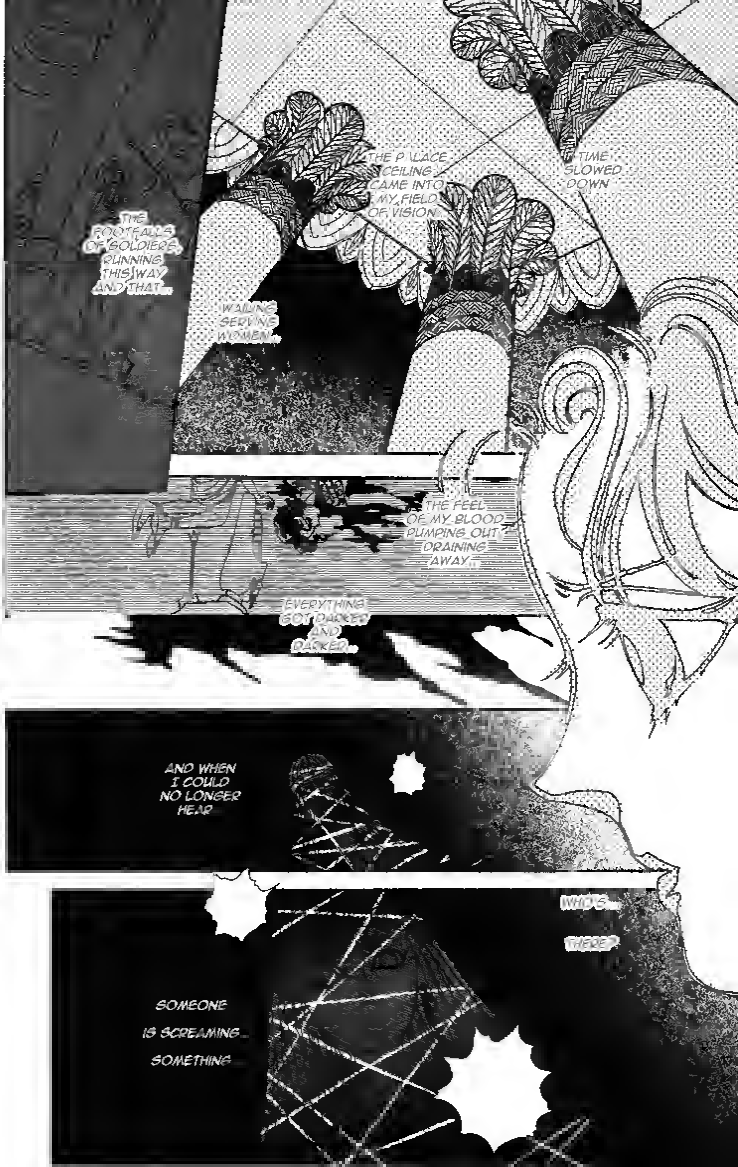
YOU!
STOP RIGHT THERE YOU DELIN-QUENTS~!
CRASH!
STOP, I SAID!
SCRAMBLE STUMBLE
PERFECT TIMING!
TAKE THIS AND GO WATER THINGS
OH! IT'S YOU AGAIN
EH-!?
UH?
WHIP!
WHY DO WE HAVE TO DO A CHORE LIKE THIS ?
Ahh, heavy~!

IT'S YOU...
Uwaa!
Ooo!
Well why not


THE WAY TOKIWA PUTS IT, WHENEVER SOMEONE DIES WITH A STRONG REGRET OR EMOTIONAL BOND
THE SOUL CAN'T GO TO HEAVEN AND HAS TO STAY HERE BUT...
SmileSmileSmile
We can't really see you having any sonds or regrets...
SO, CHINATSU WHY HAVEN'T YOU PASSED ON?

WHAT ABOUT YOU, MISTER?
UM, UHHM... I WAS ALWAYS IN THE HOP-SI-TAL, ASLEEP...
AND ONE DAY, MY BODY GOT ALL LIGHT AND FLOATY
AND HOW DID YOU DIE, ANYWAY?
By the way what I'm wearing is my preschool uniform.
US?
WELL, WE DIED FIVE THOUSAND YEARS AGO OR SO...
HMM
PROBABLY "DEATH FROM ILLNESS" THEN
Come to think of it it's kind of a historical thingie now
HOW WAS IT THAT WE DIED, AGAIN?
HM...?
AH-! THAT'S RIGHT!
IT WAS
WE FELL INTO A POOL OF CROCO-DILES...
HAD POISONOUS SNAKES SLIPPED INTO OUR BED...
AH, AND SCOR-PIONS
WE WERE POISONED THREE TIMES OR SO...
WE FELL FROM A HORSE AND ALMOST BROKE OUR NECK, TOO

WE'D BEEN CARELESS.
AND HE STABBED US !!
IMPALED US FROM BEHIND!

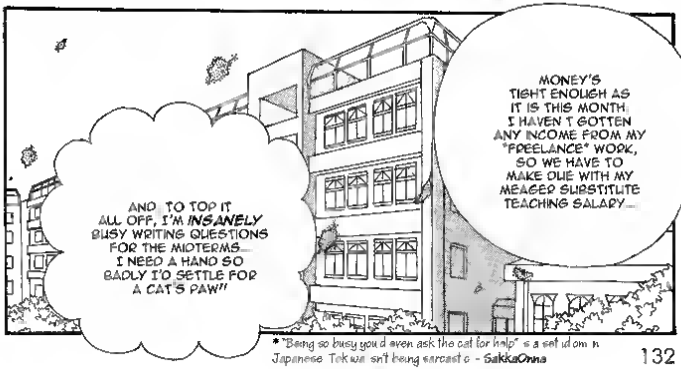

THE PLACE CEILING CAME INTO MY FIELD OF VISION...
TIME SLOWED DOWN
THE FOOTFALLS OF SOLDIERS RUNNING THIS WAY AND THAT...
WAILING SERVING WOMEN...
THE FEEL OF MY BLOOD PUMPING OUT? DRAINING AWAY...
EVERYTHING GOT DARKER AND DARKER...
AND WHEN I COULD NO LONGER HEAR
WHO'S... THERE?
SOMEONE IS SCREAMING... SOMETHING

http://www.nightmare.or.kr
AH
!!
SORRY
WE WEREN'T TRYING TO SCARE YOU
HEY
QUIT CRYING
SNUFFLE SOB

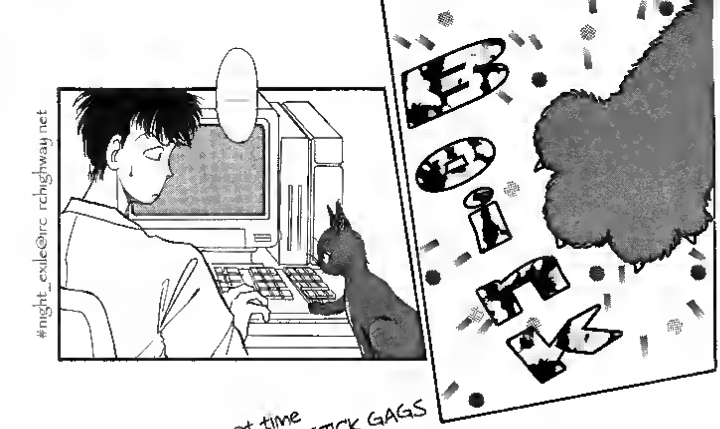
* Chinatsu, like lots of little Japanese kids is talking about herself in the third person - SakkaOnna

"STRAW-BERRIES"... ...S IN, THE RED FRUIT?
UH-HUH.
AREN'T THERE ANY IN THIS GARDEN?
THIS PLACE IS PRACTICALLY BURSTING WITH FRUIT...
CHINATSU WANTS TO EAT STRAWBERRIES...
NO STRAWBERRIES ARE THE ONE THING THAT ISN'T HERE...
REALLY !?
RIGHT! IT'S AS GOOD AS DONE!
WE'LL BRING YOU STRAW-BERRIES
PHARAOHS DO NOT GO BACK ON THEIR WORD!

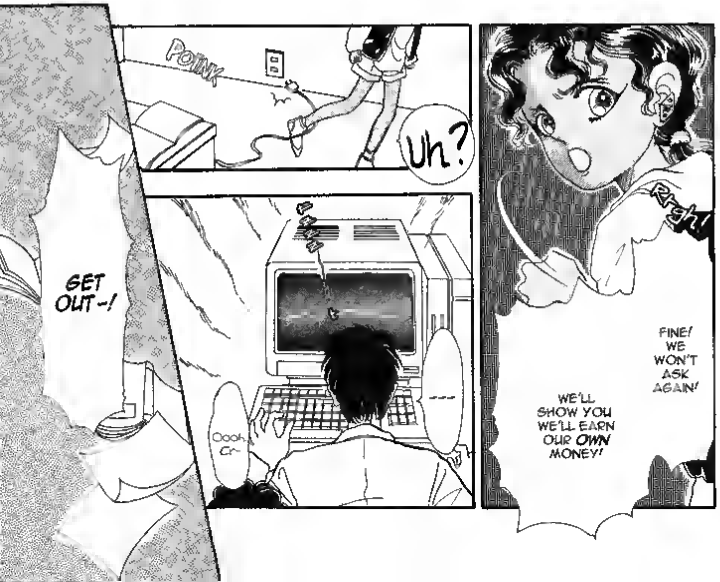
WHAT ON EARTH DO YOU WANT 6,000 YEN FOR?
THAT'S RATHER SUDDEN...
6,000 YEN!?
SHALL I PUT A RIBBON ON IT FOR YOU?
SPRING IS THE SEASON FOR STRAWBERRIES, YOU SEE. THEY'RE STILL EXPENSIVE JUST NOW
WE HAVE A GIFT BOX FOR 6,000 YEN...
I... IT DOESN'T MATTER WE JUST WANT IT...
NOPE, NO GO.
NOT IF YOU WON'T SAY WHAT YOU WANT IT FOR
OOG


MONEY'S TIGHT ENOUGH AS IT IS THIS MONTH. I HAVEN'T GOTTEN ANY INCOME FROM MY "FREELANCE" WORK, SO WE HAVE TO MAKE DUE WITH MY MEAGER SUBSTITUTE TEACHING SALARY...
AND TO TOP IT ALL OFF, I'M *INSANELY* BUSY WRITING QUESTIONS FOR THE MIDTERMS... I NEED A HAND SO BADLY TO SETTLE FOR A CAT'S PAW!!

*"Being so busy you'd even ask the cat for help" is a set idiom in Japanese. Tetsuya isn't being sarcastic. - SakkaOnna



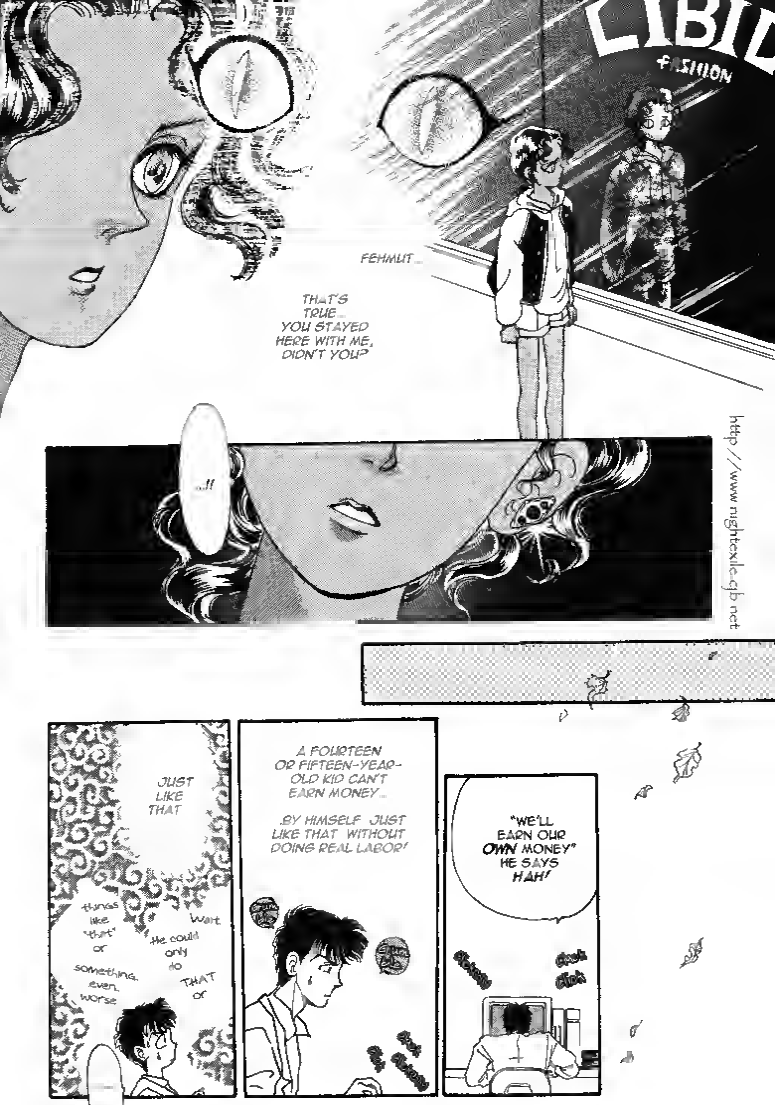

If you've got time
for WORN-OUT SLAPSTICK GAGS
like that, would
you QUIT bothering me
and go play somewhere ELSE!?



IF THIS WORLD WAS OUR WORLD, WE WOULD HAVE KILLED HIM WITH OUR OWN TWO HANDS!
"GET OUT!" HE SAYS TO A PHARAOH!?
WE'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH INSOLENCE !!

IF THIS WORLD W. S OUR WORLD
HAS IT REALLY BEEN FIVE THOUSAND YEARS SINCE THEN...?

MY PALACE VANISHED LONG AGO
"MY SOLDIERS ARE LONG DEAD!!"
EVEN THE ASSASSIN WHO STABBED ME...
...IS GONE, AND YET...
...AND YET I'M STILL HERE...
WHY...?
WHY AM I STILL HERE?
ONLY ME


FEHMUT...
THAT'S TRUE... YOU STAYED HERE WITH ME, DIDN'T YOU?
...!!
JUST LIKE THAT
things like "that" or something even worse
Wait
He could only do THAT or
A FOURTEEN OR FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD KID CAN'T EARN MONEY...
BY HIMSELF JUST LIKE THAT WITHOUT DOING REAL LABOR!
"WE'LL EARN OUR OWN MONEY" HE SAYS HAH!
Clank
Clank Clank

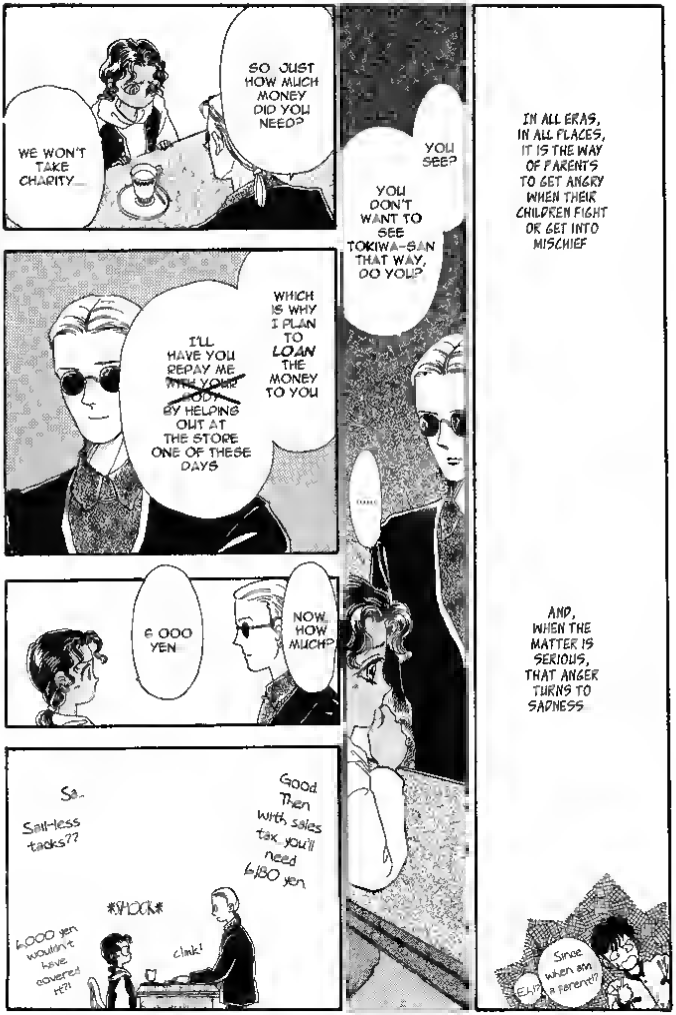
http://www.nightexile.cjb.net

Oot @_@ And I can see Fehmut trying any one of those things too. —SakkaOnna

Ha ha ha! XD - Rasha

FEHMUT --!!
DON'T BE HASTY!!
BOTH?
NOT A PROBLEM
BUT WITH EARRINGS, IT'S REALLY BEST TO HAVE THE SET...
WELL, JUST ONE BY ITSELF WILL BRING IN QUITE A SUM...
SO? HOW MUCH CAN WE GET FOR IT?
Well DUH
THIS IS THE REAL MCCOY!
WORKED IN PURE GOLD AND LAPIS LAZULI...

MASTER !?
NO
I THINK IT WOULD MAKE HIM VERY SAD.
NEVER MIND THE REASON THE IDEA THAT YOU'D TURN ANCIENT CHERISHED JEWELRY, THE PROOF OF YOUR RANK, INTO CASH
IF TOKIWA-SAN KNEW OF THIS, HE'D SURELY
-hunk!
LET TOKIWA GET MAD AND YELL! WE DON'T CARE
That's all he does, lately anyway


SO JUST HOW MUCH MONEY DID YOU NEED?
WE WON'T TAKE CHARITY...
YOU SEE?
YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE TOKIWA-SAN THAT WAY, DO YOU?
IN ALL ERAS, IN ALL PLACES, IT IS THE WAY OF PARENTS TO GET ANGRY WHEN THEIR CHILDREN FIGHT OR GET INTO MISCHIEF
WHICH IS WHY I PLAN TO LOAN THE MONEY TO YOU
I'LL HAVE YOU REPAY ME ~~WITH YOUR BODY~~ BY HELPING OUT AT THE STORE ONE OF THESE DAYS
NOW, HOW MUCH?
6 000 YEN
AND, WHEN THE MATTER IS SERIOUS, THAT ANGER TURNS TO SADNESS
Good Then with sales tax you'll need 6,180 yen
Sa...
Salt-less tacks??
*HOOK*
6,000 yen wouldn't have covered it?!
clink!
Since when am I a parent?!



#night_exile@rocketmail.com

SWISH
SWISH
OOPS! THE OLD LADY'S HERE
NOT GOOD
WELL I GUESS IT'S OKAY
S SURE
WILL YOU TAKE SOME TEA IN THANKS?
AH! THANK YOU FOR DOING THE WATERING THIS MORNING

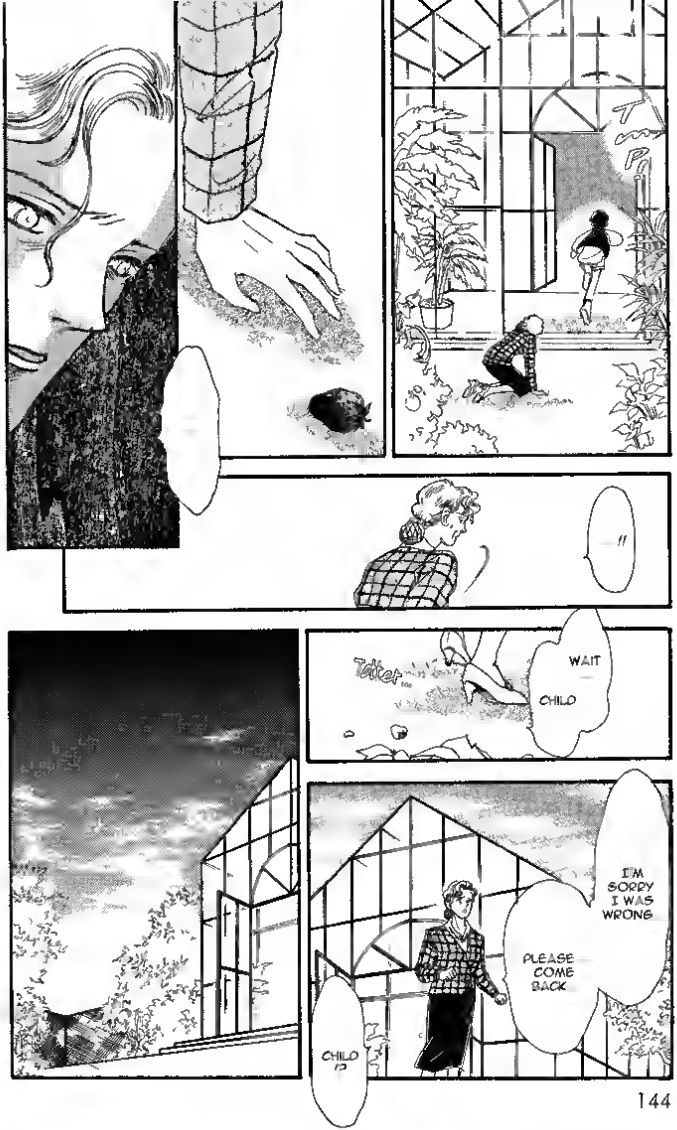
HERE!
THEY'RE STRAW-BERRIES... YOU WANT SOME TOO, LADY?
There's a ton of 'em anyway.
CLATTER!
EH?
GO AWAY, AND TAKE THOSE WITH YOU...

http://www.nightexile.com

SMASH
WHY WOULD YOU BRING THESE THINGS NOW...!?
WHY NOW!?
Tear
Rip

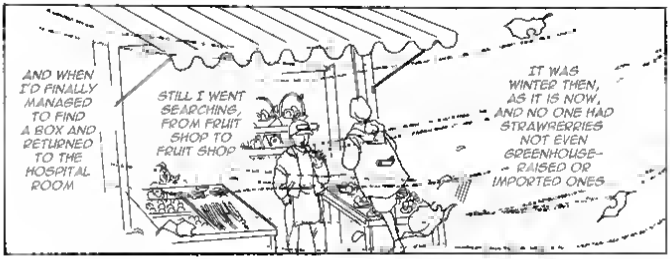
Scatter
Patter
Pat

.....!!

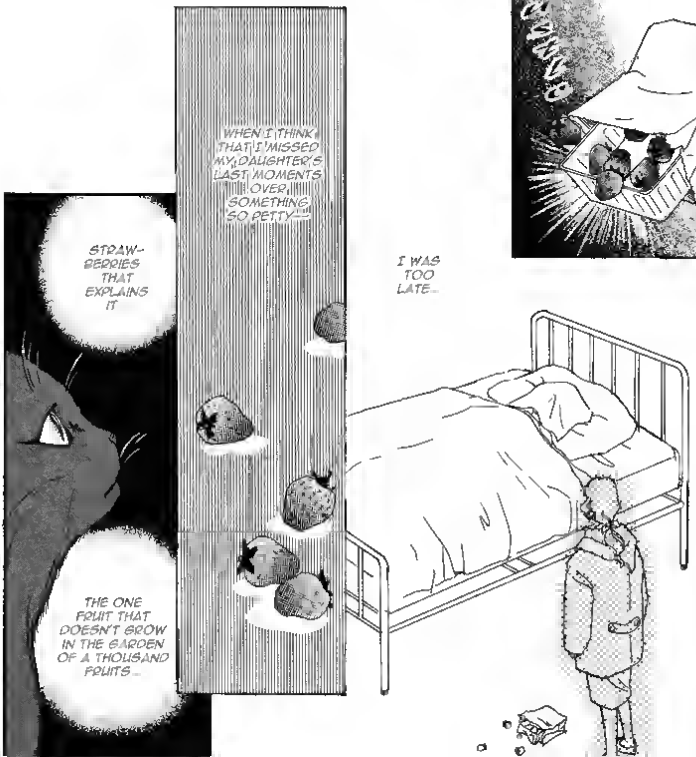

...!!
WAIT
CHILD
I'M SORRY I WAS WRONG
PLEASE COME BACK
CHILD !?

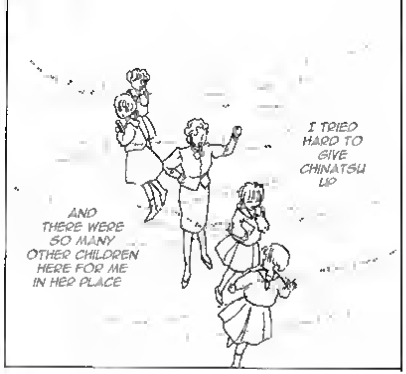
OOH
IT'S COLD TODAY, HUH!
EAH-! AND WE'VE GOT TESTS COMING UP, TOO MAKES ME TIRED...
HUH? THE OL' LADY'S NOT HERE
LUCKY-!
LET'S WARM OURSELVES UP A BIT
I BROUGHT SOMETHING GOOD
HELLO...
CHILD!
WHERE ARE YOU...?
RUSTLE

COME HERE
MEW
I HAVE TO APOLOGIZE TO YOUR MASTER
I DID SOMETHING HORRIBLE, AND I DIDN'T EVEN EXPLAIN MYSELF
PLEASE COME WITH ME
I WANT TO APOLO-GIZE
pant
pant
I WANT TO EAT STRAWBERRIES
MAMA
TWENTY YEARS AGO
ON HER SICKBED, MY ONLY DAUGHTER CHINATSU SAID


AND WHEN I'D FINALLY MANAGED TO FIND A BOX AND RETURNED TO THE HOSPITAL ROOM
STILL I WENT SEARCHING, FROM FRUIT SHOP TO FRUIT SHOP
IT WAS WINTER THEN, AS IT IS NOW, AND NO ONE HAD STRAWBERRIES NOT EVEN GREENHOUSE-RAISED OR IMPORTED ONES

PLANG


WHEN I THINK THAT I MISSED MY DAUGHTER'S LAST MOMENTS OVER SOMETHING SO PETTY...
I WAS TOO LATE...
STRAW-BERRIES THAT EXPLAINS IT
THE ONE FRUIT THAT DOESN'T GROW IN THE SEASON OF A THOUSAND FRUITS...



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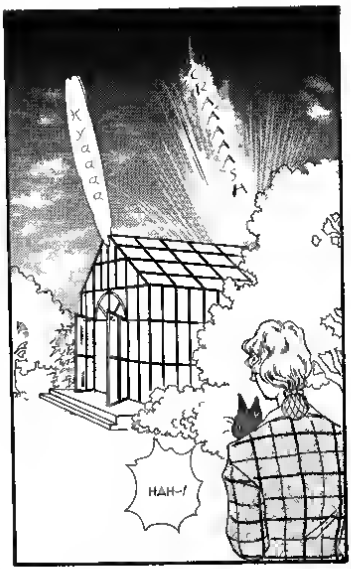
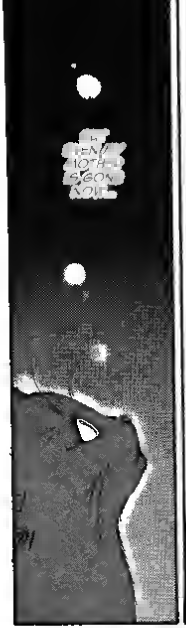
DID I MAKE MY MOTHER CRY?

*Gnargh...! This page IS straight on the hi-res scan! I swear Xp - Rasha



♦The girls were roasting sweet potatoes in a pile of leaves. It's a traditional autumn treat in Japan. All right, you'd usually roast 'em outside. >_> - EmkaOhm

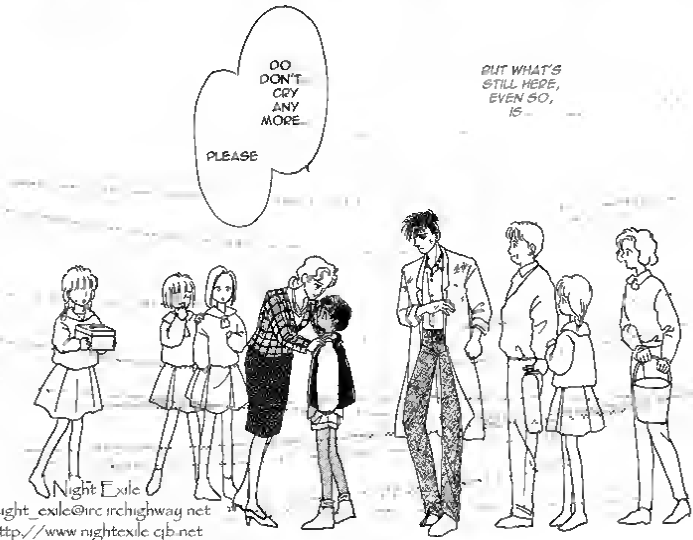
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE PLANTS!!
NOW HURRY UP!
I'LL THROW SOME WATER ON--
I
TE TEACHER!?
YOU AREN'T HURT, ARE YOU!?
HURRY NOW, RUN!
YOSHI-
WAAAH-
WHA- WHAT'S HAPPENED!?
TOKI-WA-SEN-SEI
A FIRE STARTED IN THE GREEN-HOUSE
BUT THE STUDENTS WHO WERE INSIDE ARE ALL SAFE
WHAT!? THAT CAN'T BE--
HEY-! THERE'S STILL SOMEONE IN THERE!

CHINA-TSU!!
MISTER...
YOU HURRY AND GET OUT, TOO!!
TH...NK YOU...
...FOR THE STR...W-BERRIES...

CHI-NATSU
MY KINGDOM GONE WITHOUT A TRACE
THE ASSASSIN WHO STABBED ME
THAT'S NOT FAIR, CHINATSU!!
YOU'RE JUST GONNA PASS ON MY YOURSELF!?
EVEN MY MOTHER ALL GONE
THERE'S NO LONGER ANY REASON FOR ME TO STAY HERE
ALL BY MYSELF
GRAB

What do you think you're doing, wandering around in here!?
YOU ABYSMALLY STUPID CAT!!
AH...
NEVER MIND THAT, JUST COME ON!!
WHAT WAS THAT "STUPID", HUH!? YOU BLASPHEMER!!
GUSH!
GUSH!
TOKI...
HA
HAH
HAH

HEAVENS, CHILD!
DON'T WORRY ME LIKE THAT!
AND NOW THE GARDEN OF A THOUSAND FRUITS HAS VANISHED AS WELL
A KINGDOM DESTROYED IN THE FAR DISTANT PAST
Let us go!
I'm sorry thank you yes apologies for the fuss
Kick
Struggle

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CLEANER/ EDITOR: RASHA
QC&PRESS: SYLVIA FERRIN

ONE... TWO... THREE... FOUR!!
IT'S NIGHT EXILE'S 4TH. ANNIVERSARY!!

WOW, TIME DOES FLY! A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR BELOVED STAFF! *HUGS AND OHUS*

# Reikan Shouhou Kabushikigaisha

## by Akino Matsuri

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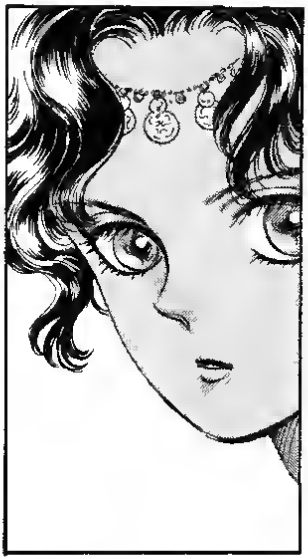

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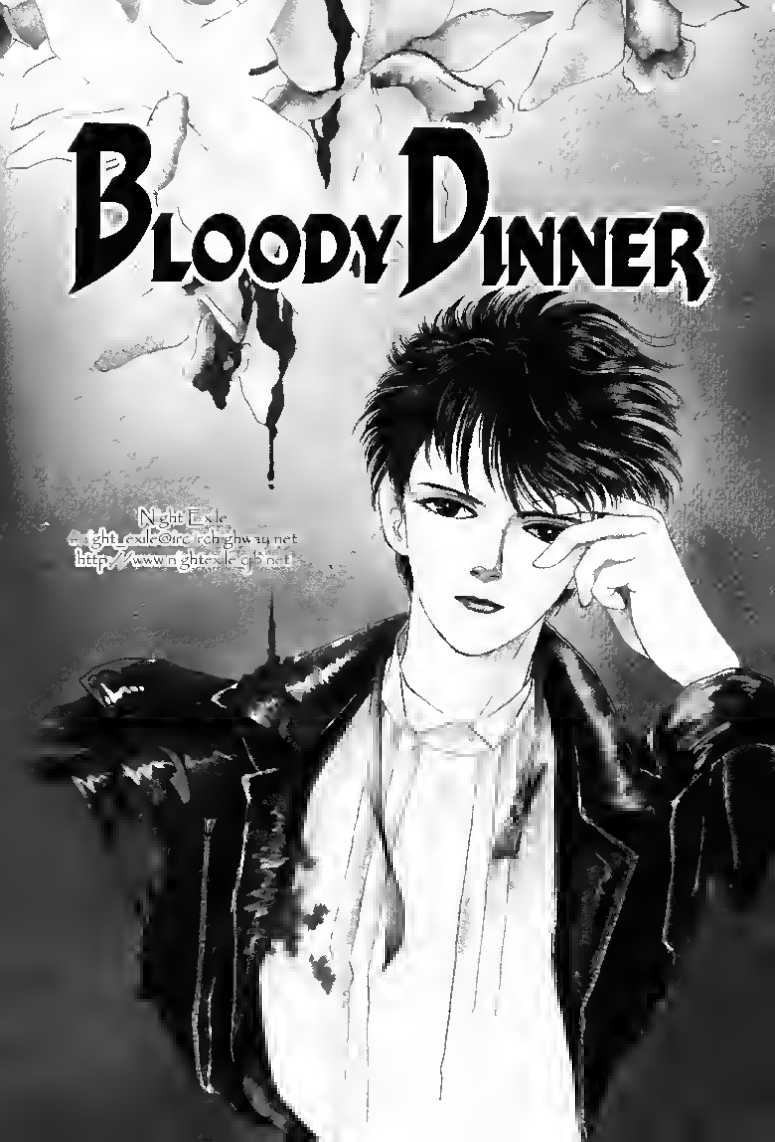
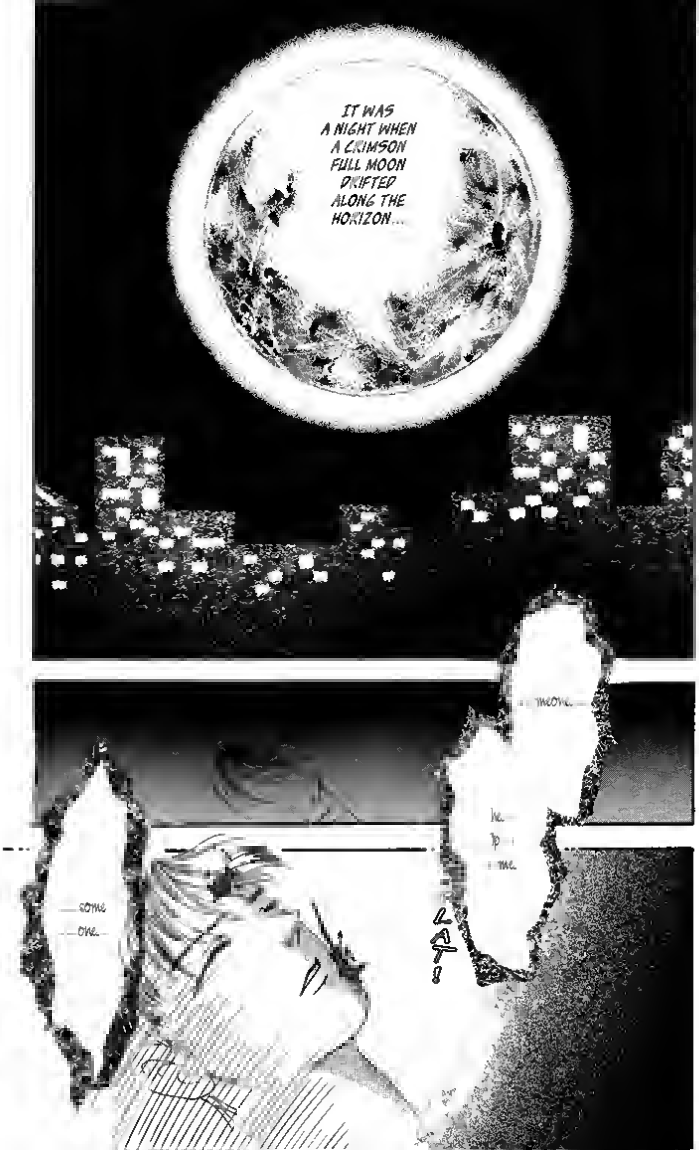
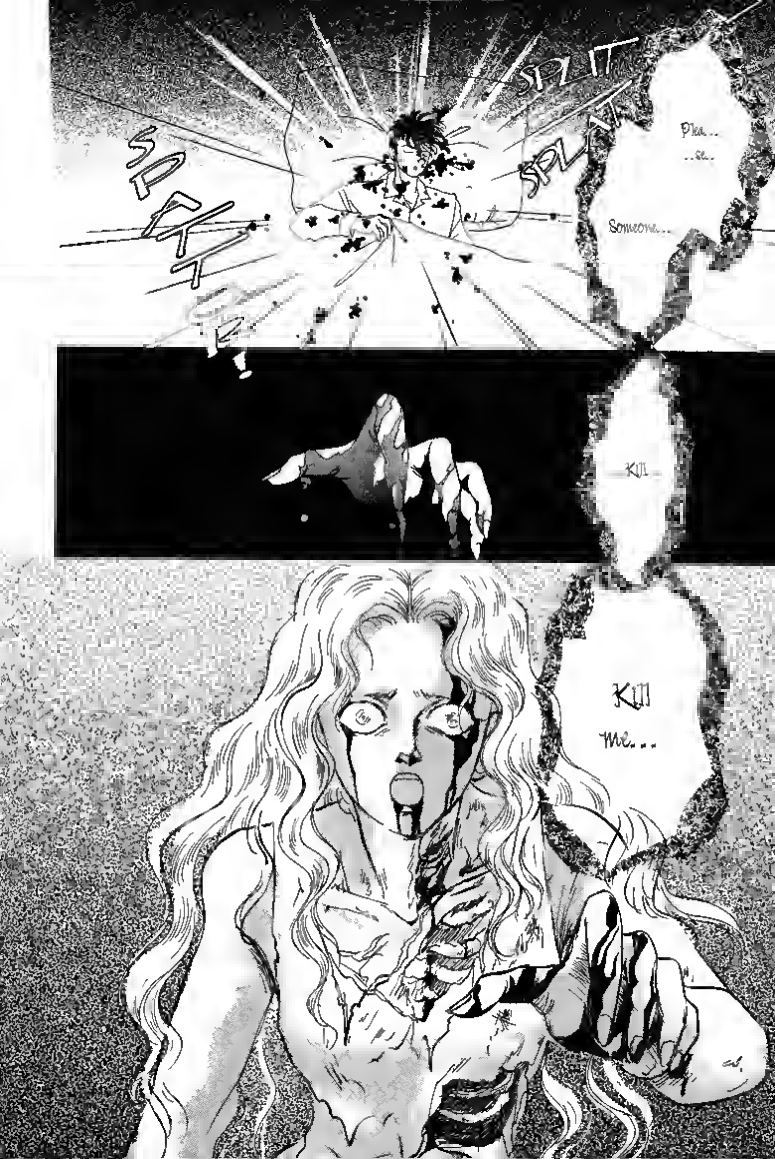
# BLOODY DINNER




IT WAS A NIGHT WHEN A CRIMSON FULL MOON DRIFTED ALONG THE HORIZON...
...MEOW...
...OWL...
...OWL...
...MEOW...
...MEOW...
...MEOW


SPLIT
SPLAT
SPLAT
Pla...
...se...
Someone...
KIL...
KILL
me...

HAH-!
A DREAM WAS IT?
FOR A DREAM, THOUGH, THAT WAS-
pant...
Flap!
Heart
URG ....
Well, that would explain the nightmare
Flap!
OR
WAS IT THE FAULT OF THAT CRIMSON MOON...?

*When the press can't or won't reveal names (if the individual involved is underage or if their relatives haven't been notified) they'll use 'A-ko' for girls and (I think) 'Shimen A' for boys - SakkaOnna

"A-ko-san (20), found dead
A PERVERT'S CRIME!?
Unnatural death; corpse found with organs removed
Time of death is estimated to have been before dawn on the seventeenth
THAT'S AROUND THE TIME I SAW THAT DREAM
There were, however, no external wounds on the corpse. Forensics does not know how the organs were removed...
Pellet
Pellet
TO KI WA!
I DON'T THINK THE WOMAN HAD THIS SORT OF FACE, THOUGH

DON'T GET IN THEIR WAY, FEHMUT
NO, IT'S PROBABLY A PHOTO SHOOT FOR A MAGAZINE OR SOME SUCH
MAYBE THEY'RE FILMING A TV SHOW...
LOOK!! LOOK!! THERE'S LOTS OF PRETTY LADIES OVER THERE!
EH?
...WHICH MEANS OF COURSE, NO MONEY
NOTHING IN MY "OTHER" LINE OF WORK EITHER
I DON'T HAVE ANY SUBSTITUTE TEACHING JOBS THIS MONTH
ER...
That's right I don't have time to waste on this
OOH! LET ME HOLD HIM, TOO~~!
Meow?
HE'S SO CUUUTE!
Myeh heh heh!
Karababy
Karababy
HEY NOW, DON'T GET CAT HAIR ON THOSE CLOTHES!
THAT LASCIVIOUS LITTLE~~ PHARAOH--

#night_exile@rcrichgway.net

WE'RE SHOOTING STILLS FOR A FASHION MAGAZINE DO YOU THINK YOU COULD LOAN HIM TO US FOR A BIT?
EH? YOU WANT PICTURES OF FEHMUT?
EH? WELL... YES...
ARE YOU THIS CAT'S OWNER, BOY?
AW-!
FEHMUT, I TOLD YOU TO STAY OUT OF THEIR WAY!
Not at all Please.
Mind if I watch the shoot?
HMM... SURE, I SUPPOSE...
YES... BEING HELD BY THE MODELS, YOU KNOW
SAY, THANKS! WHEN THE MAGAZINE COMES OUT, WE'LL SEND YOU A COPY
AH !!

...ERM. SAYING "YOU WERE IN MY DREAM" PROBABLY WOULDN'T GO OVER WELL.
MISS...! LAST NIGHT, YOU--
EH?
AH...
UM NO I MEAN... HAVEN'T WE MET SOMEWHERE BEFORE?
Aah... What's he panicking for?
Tokiwa's hopeless
EH ? "PICKUP"!? I- I WASN'T--
I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING OF THE I MEAN...
WHOA THERE, MISTER! PLEASE! DON'T USE MOLDY OLD PICKUP LINES LIKE THAT. NOT ON OUR MODELS!
MANA-GER...
And right in the middle of a shoot. Pretty cutesy

Business Smile
PLEASED TO MEET YOU I'M TAKEUCHI HIROMI
OUR MODELING AGENCY'S JUST GIVEN HER A BIG PUSH, SO SHE'S IN MAGAZINES ON TV
WELL, I'D BE SHOCKED IF YOU HADN'T "SEEN HER SOMEWHERE BEFORE"
HEH HEH!
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
AND IN ANY CASE, SHE'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM HOW SHE WAS IN MY DREAM
Um. Can I get your autograph?
A COINCIDENCE...?
JUST MY IMAGINATION...?

AT THIS POINT, I DON'T CARE IF IT'S MY TEACHING JOB OR MY OTHER ONE, I JUST WANT WORK
SO VERY VERY BORED
BUT A DREAM PROBABLY WOULDN'T PAY ME ANYWAY
Purrr
Help
THAT DREAM MIGHT HAVE BEEN A REQUEST FOR MY "OTHER" JOB
Oh, it's you...
FROM THE MODELING AGENCY...
EH!?
Scratch
RRRRR
YES, HELLO, YOU'VE REACHED TOKIWA PURIFICA---

* MY what a gigantimongous cordless phone. @ <I> - SakkaOnna
Eeeeeh~?
Photos?
What a drag...
Besides, I hate the flash...
YES, WELL I CAN'T AGREE TO ANYTHING WITHOUT ASKING HIM FIRST.
uh... what?
THINK YOU COULD BRING HIM DOWN TO THE STUDIO?
SO WE'D LIKE TO USE YOUR CAT AGAIN
THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF WAS ABSOLUTELY CRAZY ABOUT THOSE PHOTOS WE TOOK LAST TIME...
"HIROMI-KUN", WASN'T IT
I WONDER HOW SHE'S DOING~
HUH?
WE'RE ON OUR WAY!!!
WE'LL PAY HIM HALF A YEAR'S WORTH OF CANNED CAT FOOD.
AH. I FORGOT

STUDIO α
IF I SEE HIROMI-KUN AGAIN I'LL TRY TO CONFIRM THINGS ONE MORE TIME
EH ?
THE... THERE ARE!?
YAAAAY! THERE'S EVEN PRETTIER GIRLS HERE THAN THERE WERE LAST TIME! LOTS OF 'EM! ♡
This is how they look to Takuya
Hehe!
They all look exactly the same to me.

HM ?
IT—
ONLY THAT WOMAN STANDS OUT FROM THE REST
DID YOU COME TO AUDITION!?
ARE YOU A MODEL TOO?
EEH—!? N-NO, NO, I DIDN'T
I'm just the chaperone
GULP!
SHIIK
OH
KACHI-K
HMM YES, THAT MAKES MORE SENSE YOU'RE NOWHERE NEAR STYLISH ENOUGH TO BE A MODEL.

NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY HAS HAPPENED SINCE THEN, HAS IT?
GOOD SO SHE'S ALL RIGHT...
HELLO, TOKIWA-SAN
OH! THANK YOU FOR THE OTHER DAY
!!
NO
I THOUGHT SO I DO FEEL SOMETHING
NO WAIT!!
...
I'M JUST HEADED TO A SHOOT
THE SINISTER AURA OF SOMETHING GROTESQUE...
SOMETHING VERY CLOSE TO HER...

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I'LL LET YOU GO OUT WITH ME!
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND!
EH!?
What—!?
OH, MAKOTO-SAN'S THE MOST POPULAR MODEL AT OUR AGENCY.
She's been on TV a lot too
WHA WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT WOMAN!?
Pluck
WHOOPS! WORK FIRST, THOUGH, WORK FIRST
SHE'S SO PRETTY
I'M A WOMAN, AND EVEN I CAN'T HELP STARING SOMETIMES
WAIT UNTIL THE SHOOT'S FINISHED, 'KAY? ♡

PRETTY
SHE CERTAINLY STANDS OUT...
BUT...
SOMETHING ABOUT HER IS DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER MODELS HERE
Hey she's...
I mean all the others just look like (^^)
UNLESS MY INSTINCTS HAVE GONE DESPERATELY WRONG SHE'S---

*The weird little face is called a "he no he no he sh" because it's drawn with those characters. (へのへのもへじ try it *grin*) The last he is for the mouth, which is missing on this one. It seems to be the quintessential doodle in Japan. —SekkaOnna

*Quick! Who does Kyouko look like?? (If she were male. And Chinese XD) The vol of "Re:Kan" is from 1991, though - and THAT scenes didn't start until 1995. – SakkaOmna

TAKE CARE, THEN
WELL ACTUALLY
OH, YOU ARE?
EH...?
IT MIGHT BE MAKE WAY FOR HIROMI-KUN
IF I KEEP EYE ON KOTO
TOKIWA-SAAAN! C'MON, LET'S GO!
AND EXPOSE HER FOR THE MONSTER SHE IS!!
THEN I'LL CATCH HER RIGHT OUT...
UM... UHM, MISS, DO YOU REALLY HAVE TO CLING LIKE THAT...?
UM BUT EVEN SO...
MY! ARE YOU EMBARRASSED? You're just too cute!

WELL, WELL! FOR A GUY WHO LIVES ALONE, YOUR PLACE IS PRETTY TIDY
Cause he DOESN'T live alone.
Zuzuzu
Wo... Would you like something to drink?
EVEN IF IT ISN'T REALLY ON PURPOSE, BEING ALONE WITH A WOMAN THIS LATE AT NIGHT ISN'T A GOOD SITUATION
RIGHT! THIS IS A JOB, PLAIN AND SIMPLE DO YOUR BEST TOKIWA!!
Tokiwa-san!!
BESIDES THIS IS ALL TO PROTECT HIROMI-KUN FROM THE YOUKAI'S CLUTCHES
Mutter
Wobble
BUT NO! SHE MAY BE A WOMAN BUT I'M DEALING WITH A YOUKAI* HERE!!
Mutter
↑This need for excuses may mean he's got Type 'A blood'**
Tokiwa-san
SAY, TOKIWA-SAN!!
いいよ!
YE-
YES!

*Youkai - Japanese catch-all term for a nature monster/spirit who may or may not be intelligent and is usually on the (non-) little mag colly dept - SakkaOwa

**: In Japan, blood type is said to determine personality. (Kind of like zodiac signs in the West) - SakkaOwa

HEH HEH...
MY, BUT YOU LOOK YUMMY ♡
SHUDDER
AGH!! DEMON BEGONE!!
FWOOM!
CLATTER
UM- YES?
HUH?
MY POWER DOESN'T WORK!?
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
WAH-!
THUD!
WAUGH! FEHMUT DON'T JUST STAND THERE, HELP ME--!
Well somebody's got to
HMM--? DID YOU WANT ME TO READ YOUR PALM OR SOMETHING?
I say as I push you down and

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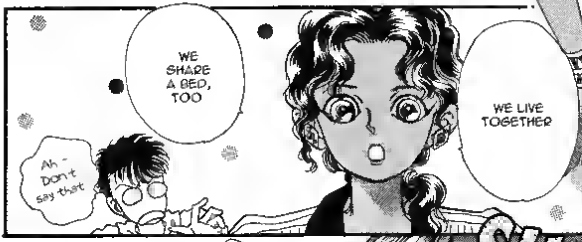
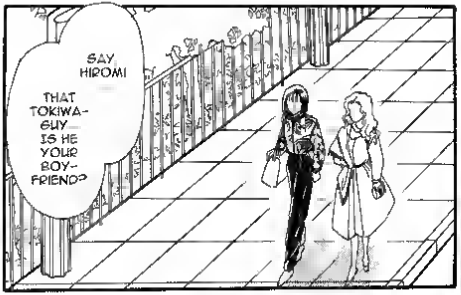
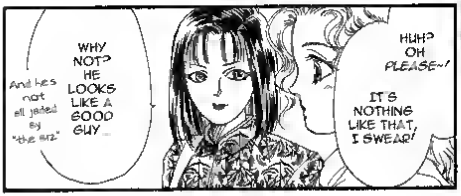
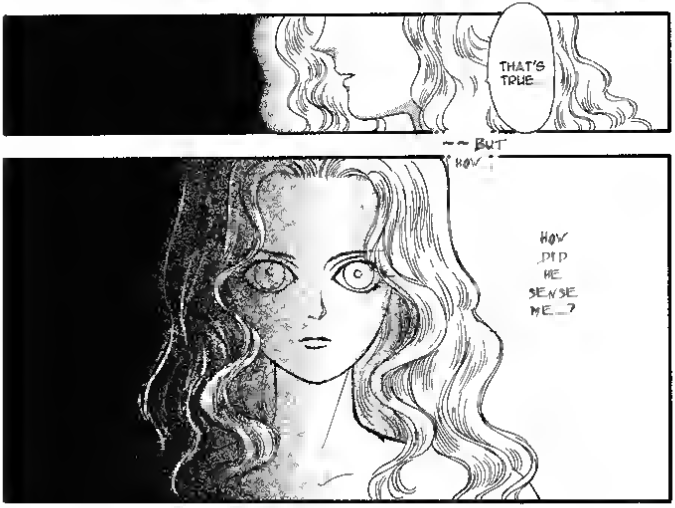


CREAK
I'LL STEP DOWN FOR TONIGHT
—BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M GIVING UP
EEH!?
I admit I did ask for help but did you really have to say THAT!?
Ano! What's with that outfit, hmm!?
HEY, KID
I PLAN TO FIGHT FAIR YOU DO THE SAME, ALL RIGHT?
Just a little inverov
STALK STALK
Oh~!
OH, SO NOW IT'S COMPLETELY MY PROBLEM IS IT—!?
WOW WELL, IF THAT DIDN'T WORK NOTHING'S GONNA
SLAM
AH
MISS! WAIT JUST A—
NO, THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT NOW!!
HOW COULD MY POWERS NOT WORK—?
I'VE NEVER ENCOUNTERED SUCH A POWERFUL ENEMY BEFORE !!
YEAH, IT LOOKS LIKE THIS ONE MIGHT BE TOUGH
Scritch Scritch


SAY, HIROMI
THAT TOKIWA-GUY... IS HE YOUR BOY-FRIEND?

PHEW! TODAY REALLY WENT LATE, DIDN'T IT


HUH? OH PLEASE~! IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT, I SWEAR!
WHY NOT? HE LOOKS LIKE A GOOD GUY...
And he's not all jaded by "the biz."


THAT'S TRUE...
~~ BUT HOW...
HOW DID HE SENSE ME...?

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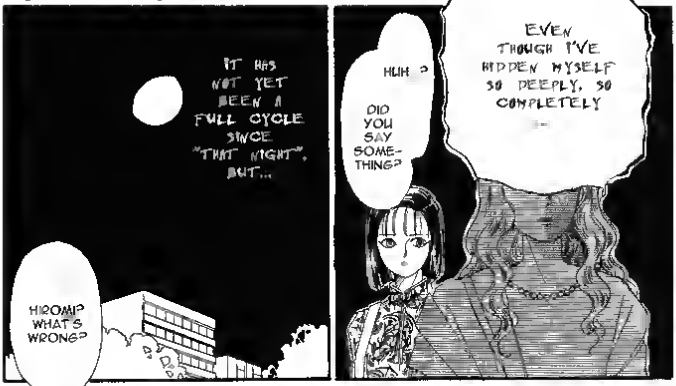
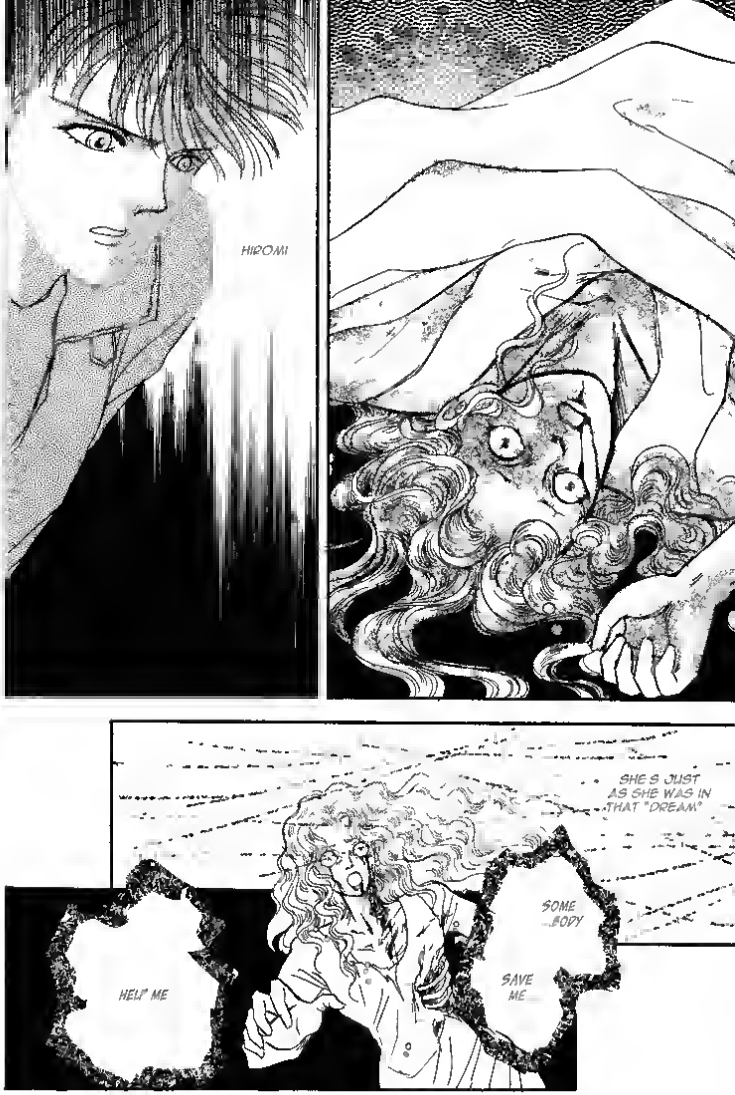

IT HAS NOT YET BEEN A FULL CYCLE SINCE "THAT NIGHT", BUT...
HIROMI? WHAT'S WRONG?
HUH ?
DID YOU SAY SOME-THING?
EVEN THOUGH I'VE HIDDEN MYSELF SO DEEPLY, SO COMPLETELY

KY.....
キャーーーーーーーー！

THEY SAY IT'S ANOTHER STRANGE CORPSE
THIS ONE WAS A POPULAR MODEL, APPARENTLY, AND...
YOU GUESSED IT. HER ORGANS HAVE BEEN REMOVED
SO IT'S THE WORK OF THE SAME KILLER?
EXCUSE ME!
EXCUSE ME, PLEASE
LET ME THROUGH
MUTTER
MUTTER
Could've been wild dogs or some thing
Or that thing from "Alien"...


HIROMI
SHE'S JUST AS SHE WAS IN THAT "DREAM"
SOME BODY
SAVE ME
HELP ME

EVEN THOUGH SHE CAME ASKING FOR HELP
SOME-BODY
EVEN THOUGH I WASN'T ABLE TO HELP...
I COULDN'T—
I FAILED TO PROTECT MY CLIENT !!

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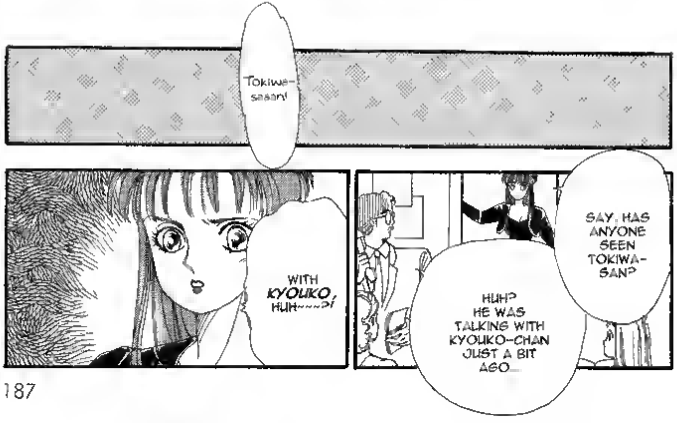
SOMEONE FROM THE POLICE QUESTIONED ME, TOO, AS A WITNESS, BUT I DON'T...
I KNOW NOTHING...
KYOUKO-KUN...
AND AFTER WE PARTED WAYS, HIROMI...
POOR HIROMI...
HER BODY ALL TORN APART, LIKE--
I... I'M SO AFRAID
SOMEHOW I FEEL AS THOUGH I'LL BE NEXT...!
MI... MISS...!?
Heh!
TOKIWA-SAAAN?
WHERE ARE YOU!!!?

SHE WAS JEALOUS OF HIROMI...
AND SO SHE KILLED HER!!
Tokiwa-sensei
MAKOTO-SAN...
SHE DID IT. I'M SURE OF IT
—
ONLY I HADN'T SENT HER HOME...
HIROMI-KUN WAS KILLED AFTER MAKOTO LEFT MY APARTMENT

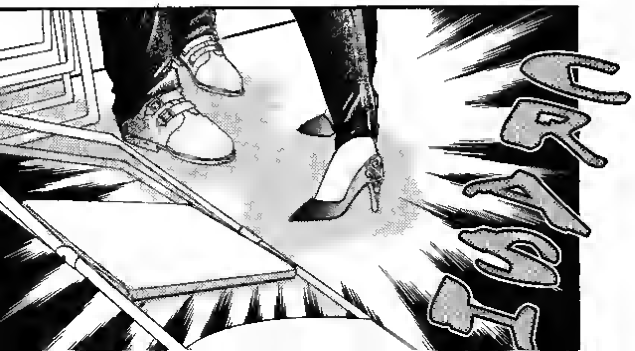
MURMUR MURMUR
PLEASE.
I CAN'T TALK ABOUT IT HERE...
MAKOTO-KUN'S SECRET...?
BESIDES I KNOW MAKOTO-SAN'S SECRET

COME WITH ME
...THIS WAY...
Tok


Tokiwa-saaan!
WITH KYOUKO, HUH~~~?!
SAY, HAS ANYONE SEEN TOKIWA-SAN?
HUH? HE WAS TALKING WITH KYOUKO-CHAN JUST A BIT AGO...

THE STUDIO STORE-ROOM
P-TUNK!
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
NO ONE WILL INTERRUPT US HERE
IT'S JUST YOU AND ME TOKIWA-SAN
KYOUKO KUN?

OH, IT'S YOU
HEY, MAKOTO!
TOKIWA-SAAAAN!
KYOU-KO!?
YOU CAN'T FIND TOKIWA?
HELP ME OUT! WE'VE GOT TO PROTECT TOKIWA-SAN FROM A WOMAN'S EVIL CLUTCHES!!
FINE! WE'LL CALL A TEMPORARY CEASE-FIRE!
WHA!?
CLAMP
A WOMAN?
FOR TOKIWA, THAT'S A TOUGHER ENEMY THAN ONI OR MONSTERS
!!
UP HERE!
Clang Clang
Scuff


CRASH

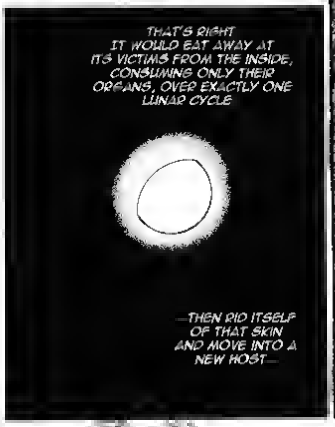
EVEN IF I TRY TO BREAK LOOSE
WITH THINGS LIKE THIS I CAN'T ...
KYO KYOUKO-KU N!?
SQUEEZE!
I SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS MUCH, MUCH SOONER
EH !?
@night_owl_stories_by_kyoukoku

キャアアアアア!
キャアアアアア!
Oh, man.
KYAA!
ARGH!!
YOU THIEVING CAT!!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING TO MY TOKIWA-SAN?!
Cat.

HUH ? MAKOTO-SAN? I WHA WHAT AM I DOING HERE !?
OH COME ON! DON'T PRETEND YOU DON'T KNOW!
LITTLE GIRL!!
Okay calm down
HEH HEH...
CLATTER!
!?
IT HADN'T BEEN VERY LONG FOR KYOUKO-KUN SO IT SEEMS SHE'S STILL ALL RIGHT
TO... TOKIWA ...?
I'VE FINALLY CAUGHT YOU

* "Gaki" literally means "starving demon." They're said to be the souls of jealous or greedy people who, as punishment, have been cursed with everlasting hunger, usually for something disgusting. (Pretty little kids also get called "gaki" by the way ^_^) -GakkaOnna
TO... TOKIWA-SAN, WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?
YOU'RE A TYPE OF "G...KI," AREN'T YOU?
IT WAS LURKING INSIDE KYOUKO-KUN UNTIL JUST A BIT AGO
TO THE DEMON THAT'S INVADED MY BODY...
AND BEFORE THAT

THE
THEN, ALL OF THE MYSTERIOUS SERIAL KILLINGS BEFORE THAT WERE—


THAT'S RIGHT
IT WOULD EAT AWAY AT ITS VICTIMS FROM THE INSIDE, CONSUMING ONLY THEIR ORGANS, OVER EXACTLY ONE LUNAR CYCLE
—THEN RID ITSELF OF THAT SKIN AND MOVE INTO A NEW HOST—

BEFORE THAT, IT ATE OUT A NEST FOR ITSELF INSIDE OF HIROMI-KUN
—AND GNAWED HER ORGANS TO PIECES!!

WHEN I MET HIROMI-KUN AT THAT PHOTOSHOOT IN THE PARK, SHE WAS ALREADY—
YOU WERE ALREADY CONTROLLING HER BODY

I'VE LIVED THIS LONG HIDING DEEP INSIDE THE BODIES OF OTHERS WITHOUT EVER BEING SUSPECTED...
KEH KEH...
TOKIWA-SAN
THAT VOICE... WHAT-!?
I REALLY DON'T KNOW HOW YOU NOTICED ME...
!!
HAVING YOU SNOOPING AROUND ANY LONGER WOULD BE A NUISANCE, SO
I'VE CHANGED MY PLANS I'LL HELP MYSELF TO YOUR BODY FIRST
AFTER THAT, I CAN SILENCE THESE TWO AT MY LEISURE...
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.

IF I M TO BE KILLED BY YOU IN ANY CASE
I M IN THIS ALREADY MIGHT AS WELL GO ALL THE WAY
WHAT!?
NO. I BELIEVE YOU'LL MEET YOUR END HERE, TOO
YOU SEE, YOU CAN'T LEAVE MY BODY EITHER, NOT NOW
!!
YOU ARE GOING TO DIE WITH ME

NOW THEN HOW SHOULD I DIE...?
SHOULD I JUMP? HANG MYSELF?
BUT WAIT I CAN'T HAVE YOU RUNNING AWAY IN THE MIDDLE OF THINGS
TO... TOKIWA-SAN!?
IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THERE'S DEADLY POISON HERE, TOO
IF I DRINK THIS OFF, YOU'RE GUARANTEED TO BURN AND MELT ALONG WITH MY INSIDES!
OR I COULD...
TWIST
KYAAA!

*Man Even with his eyes closed, that's gotta HURT Xp —Rasha

Phew
EEH!?
THAT WAS ONLY PAINT THINNER
LIKE ALCOHOL, THOUGH, IT BURNS QUITE WELL IF YOU SET FIRE TO IT
NO— STOP—
I COULDN'T TOUCH YOU WHEN YOU WERE INSIDE KYOUKO-KUN'S BODY, OR ANY OF THE OTHERS.
THIS IS MY FIRST AND LAST CHANCE TO TAKE YOU DOWN, YOU SEE.
RIDICULOUS!
KILLING YOURSELF BY YOUR OWN HAND—
NORMAL HUMANS CAN'T DO THINGS LIKE THAT!

#night_exile@irc.irchighway.net

YOU'RE RIGHT "NORMAL HUMANS" CAN'T
YOU MUST HAVE REALIZED IT YOURSELF BY NOW...
I'M NOT LIKE THOSE YOU POSSESSED BEFORE
MY BODY
MY WILL
I'D WAGER YOU'RE UNABLE TO CONTROL EITHER OF THEM...!!
!!

TOKIWA-SAN NO! DON'T DO IT!!
ONCE THIS IGNITES, THE ROOM WILL BE A SEA OF FLAMES
FEHMLIT TAKE THOSE TWO AND RUN
RI RIGHT
KA-CHI
!!
TOKI-
STOOOOOOP!
BUUUUU
ZZZZZ

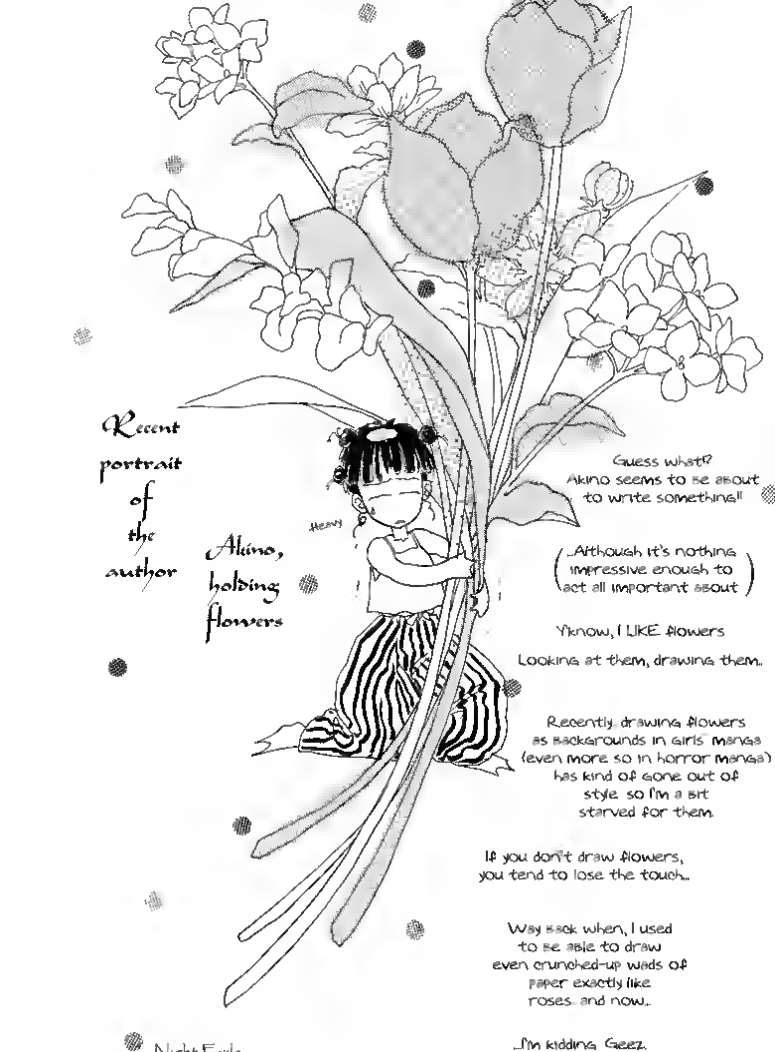
!!
ヒュー
ヒュー
ヒュー

M. KOTO, GET BACK!
NOOOOO!
GRRR
SHIFT
GRRR
GRRRRRR

THESE FLAMES, WHICH BURN ONLY "DEMONS" TO ASH...
...MUST BE AS THE FIRES OF HELL TO YOU
KYAAAA
LIVING WHILE SUBDENED WITH THE CONSEQUENCES OF THOSE ACTIONS GAVE YOU THIS PITIFUL WARPED SHAPE
YOU DEVOUR THE FLESH OF YOUR OWN KIND EVEN THAT OF YOUR PARENTS
IN ORDER TO KEEP YOURSELF ALIVE
HOWEVER, YOU'VE FAILED TO FINISH YOUR LAST DINNER

Kill me!!
Somebody, please...
Somebody...
IN THE END, THEN, HIROMI-KUN WAS THE LAST VICTIM...
...WAS IT BECAUSE, IN ORDER TO VANQUISH THE THING INSIDE HER
WHEN SHE PLEADED FOR DEATH IN MY DREAM...
...THAT WAS ALL THAT COULD BE DONE?
WITH THIS, I HAVE FULFILLED YOUR REQUEST
FUKU!!

FEHMUT, HELP!
EH!? NO, THAT WASN'T... I MEAN
THANK YOU FOR PROTECTING ME BACK THERE!
I've fallen for you all over again!
EH...?
OH... YES
TOKIWA-SAN!! ARE YOU OKAY!?
TOKIWA... JUST SO YOU KNOW...
WHA...
THAT'S PROBABLY WHY HE WAS THE ONLY MODEL THAT YOU COULD TELL APART FROM THE OTHERS, RIGHT?
MAKOTO'S
GUY.
Oh- I knew that
He's Benedikt as they say
WHAT IN THE--!?
OH, TOKIWA-SAN... NOW REALLY!
THAT MAKES IT EVEN WORSE!
FEHMUT, DO SOMETHING!
Bloody Dinner / The End


Recent portrait of the author
Akino, holding flowers
Heavy
Guess what!?
Akino seems to be about to write something!!
(..Although it's nothing impressive enough to act all important about)
Yknow, I LIKE flowers
Looking at them, drawing them..
Recently, drawing flowers as backgrounds in girls' mangas (even more so in horror mangas) has kind of gone out of style, so I'm a bit starved for them.
If you don't draw flowers, you tend to lose the touch..
Way back when, I used to be able to draw even crunched-up wads of paper exactly like roses.. and now..
..I'm kidding. Geez.

Night Exile
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http://www.nightexile.cjb.net

# Reikan Shouhou Kabushikigaisha

## by Akino Matsuri

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This is an older series by the mangaka, but if you liked it, you can buy it in bunko version or you can find the original version in used bookstores.

This scanlation just doesn't do Akino-sensei's artwork justice. Support her by buying the books!

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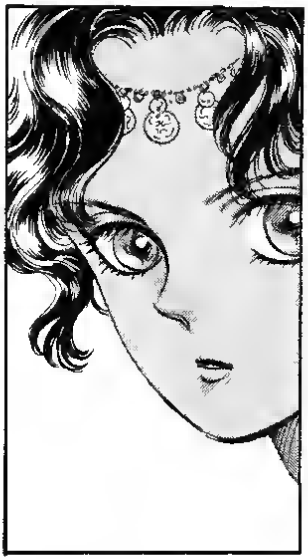

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PLEASE SUPPORT AKINO MATSURI AND BUY HER BOOKS!!

*This series is already on Volume 4. Thanks so much to all the readers who've stuck with me this far!! There are three stories about flowers in this volume. What sort of flowers do YOU like...?*

Night Exile
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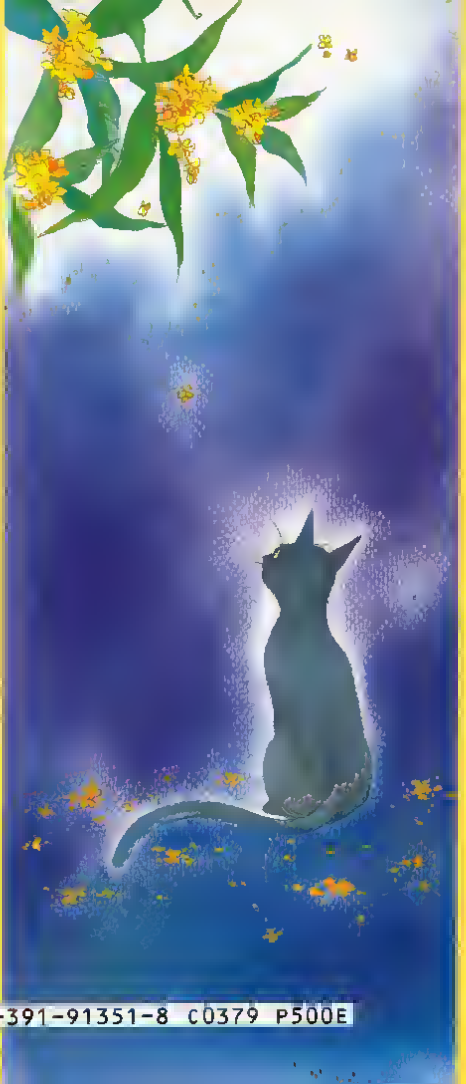
I, Tokiwa Kanenari, work with the Spirit World, but... A cat who is, simultaneously, a pharaoh as well? Together with this strange being, Fehmut-kun, I brave fantastic and grotesque incidents! Round 4 of the popular series!!



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